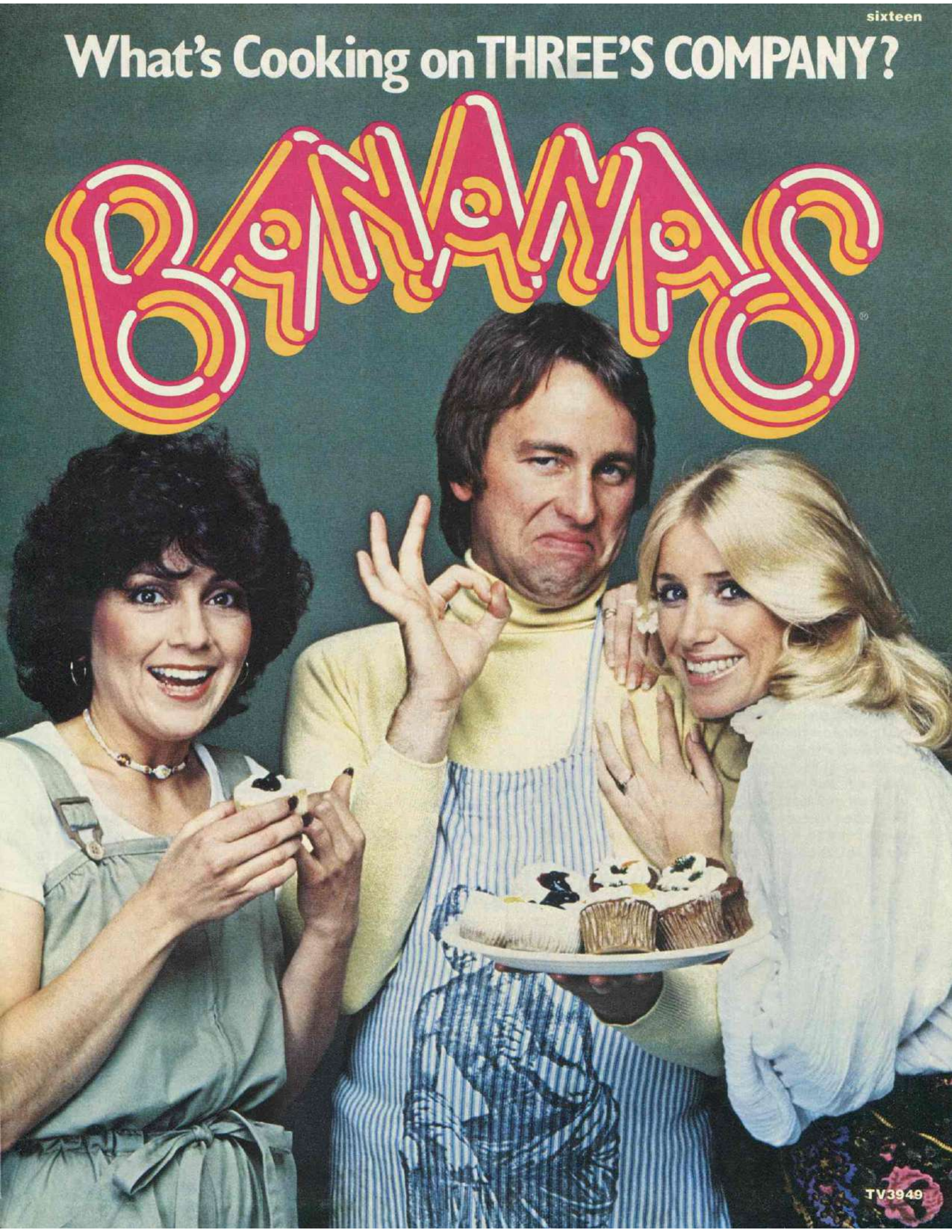
What's Cooking on THREE'S COMPANY?



Write to: BANANAS, 50 W. 44th Street, New York, NY 10036.
Mailing Tip: To make sure your letter arrives promptly, write the address on the front of the envelope — not on your uncle!

DEAR BANANAS:
I always get sick on Christmas. Last year, I had the stomach flu. The Christmas before that, I had the chicken pox. And the two Christmases before that, I had colds.

Susan Dodd
Ottawa, IL

Susan, last year I hoped and hoped for a White Christmas, and I got dandruff!

Jovial Bob

DEAR BANANAS:
The Amazing Bunnyman is silly, stupid, ridiculous, and gross. In other words, I love it! I'll be hopping mad if you take him out of the magazine!

Terry Thall
Newark, OH

We'll handle the bunny jokes, Terry! Actually, the Bunny of Steel will be back with an exciting new adventure next month. He's away this month, trying to sell his rabbit's feet as good luck charms. But, since they're size 14, he's not having much luck! Crusader Carrot, meanwhile, is appearing in a lettuce and tomato salad this month.

Jovial Bob

DEAR BANANAS:
I thought your article about Starsky was great. I'm going to be a cop one day, too.

Jon Thorne
Greer, SC

Jon, would you believe the other day I took my pet blue jay out for a stroll, and a policeman arrested me for jay walking?

Jovial Bob

DEAR BANANAS:
I'm very worried because my friend has been acting strange. He loves to collect vampire fangs. Lately, he hasn't been coming out during the day. He greases his hair and wears a cape and makes strange sounds. What can I do?

John Gallen, Jr.
Long Beach, MS

How can I tell you what to do, John? You haven't told me what's strange about him yet!

Jovial Bob

DEAR BANANAS:
Will you tell me how to make sure that my teachers don't see me reading your magazine in class?

Jean Daniels
Huntington, NY

The best way to avoid being seen, Jean, is to blindfold yourself and read the magazine in the dark. Another good trick: stand on your head while you read BANANAS. Your teachers will be so surprised to see you on your head, they won't notice what you're reading.

Jovial Bob

DEAR BANANAS:
I've been thinking about buying a year's subscription to BANANAS. The only thing that bothers me is the price. I think it's just too much money.

Timmy Hormuth
Pittsburgh, PA

We think BANANAS is a bargain, Timmy. Do you know what a pound of <u>real</u> bananas costs in the supermarket these days? And they get over-ripe in a few days and you can't eat them. You can always eat your copy of BANANAS — no matter how ripe it gets!

Jovial Bob

Quick — write to BANANAS! We can't wait to hear from you! Tell us who you want to read about — and who you don't want to read about. Tell us what you've been doing lately that might be of interest to other readers. Tell us your innermost secrets so that we can spread them across the nation! Write! We'll wait right here while you get a pen!

BANANAS THIS MONTH:

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Weird, Unsolved Mystery 12
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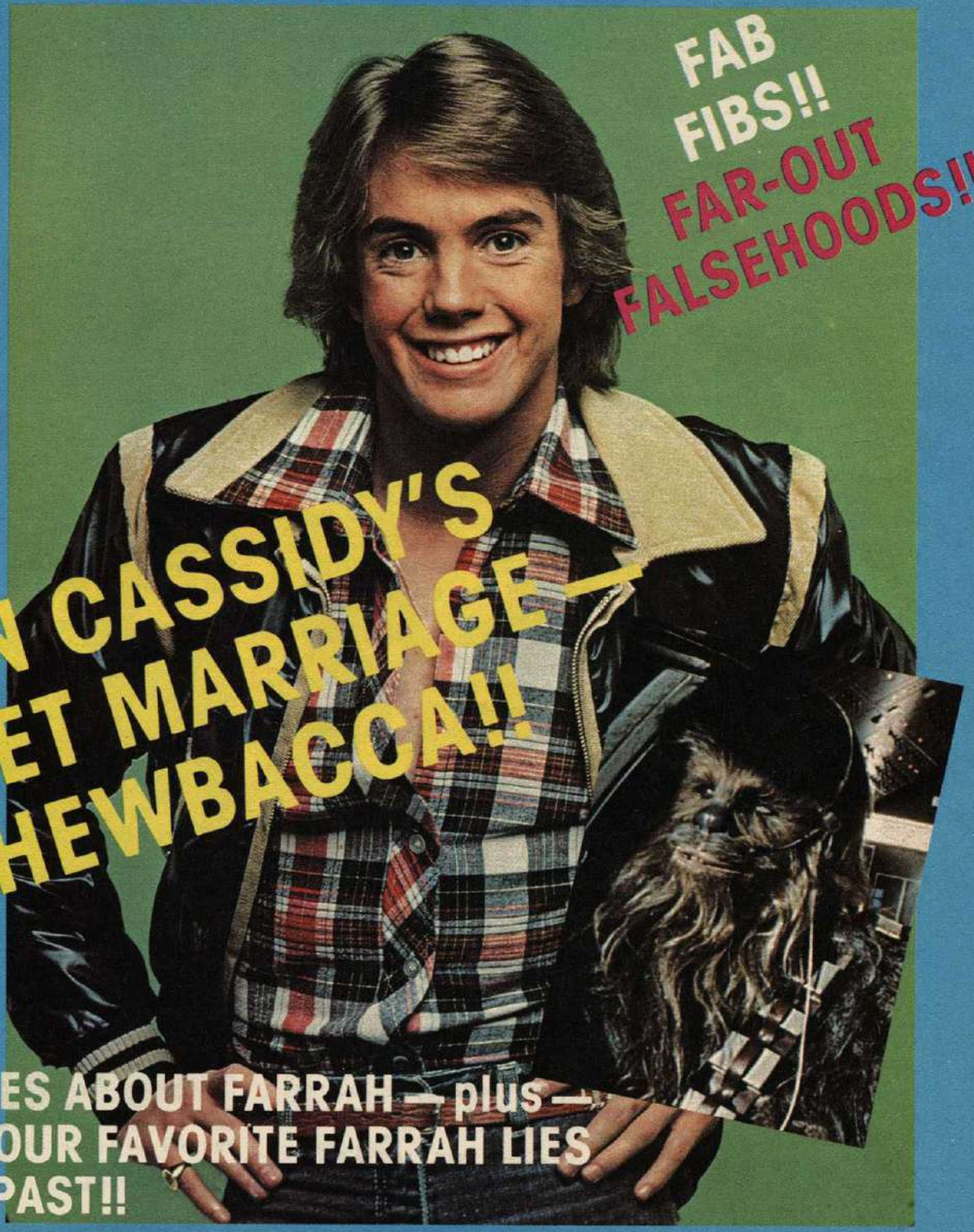
NOW, ARE YOU READY FOR THE CRAZIEST MOVIE MAGAZINE EVER?! HERE'S OUR VERSION OF A MOVIE FAN MAGAZINE WE'D LIKE TO SEE...

STUNTMAN REVEALS: "STARSKY & HUTCH GET CAR SICK!!"
HOW BALDNESS HAS AFFECTED VINNIE BARBARINO!

75¢

MOVIE-TV LIES

All the Latest Lies about All Your Favorite Stars!



FAB FIBS!! FAR-OUT FALSEHOODS!!

SHAUN CASSIDY'S SECRET MARRIAGE TO CHEWBACCA!!

ALL NEW LIES ABOUT FARRAH — plus — SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE FARRAH LIES FROM THE PAST!!

IN THE LIAR'S DEN!

The Latest False Whispers and Unfounded Rumors from Just About Everywhere You Can Think Of....

Yes, that *was* a 200-pound Irish sheepdog that **JOHN TRAVOLTA** gave to his newest sweetheart, **DINAH SHORE**, at Hollywood's famed Blue Derby restaurant last week. Imagine Dinah's surprise when John asked her to wear his gift *around her neck!*....Meanwhile, John's *Welcome Back, Klotter* TV co-star, **GABRIEL KAPLAN**, was celebrating his 63rd birthday at home with his brother **SHAUN CASSIDY** (they don't look alike — until you see them in the same room!)....

JACLYN SMITH confided to us privately that she's sick and tired of *Laverne & Shirley* and may ask to leave the show after this season. If she does exit, rumor has it that **CINDY WILLIAMS,** daughter of playwright **TENNESSEE WILLIAMS** and former swimming star **ESTHER WILLIAMS**, may take over her part .... More lies about this next month!

Seen holding hands at Grauman's famed Japanese Theater: **SHAUN CASSIDY** and **DINAH SHORE**!....The tragic story has been suppressed up till now, but in a bone-crushing plane accident last fall, **LEE MAJORS** lost one leg and one arm. Utilizing the latest in scientific technology, doctors were able to perform a miracle on Lee, giving him new limbs described by scientists as "bionic." Lucky Lee returned to work, keeping this incredible story hush-hush — until now! Lee's lovely wife, **DINAH SHORE,** smiled bravely through it all....

Sad news for rock music fans: two of the nation's top groups have decided to call it quits. Both **PAUL McCARTNEY & THE MONKEES** and **THE LOVIN' SPOONFUL** have decided to stop making music .... Readers ask: What do the letters BG stand for in the name of the singing group, the **BEE GEES**? Answer: It stands for Bubble Gum, a favorite snack of the six **GIBSON BROTHERS**, who make up the popular group....

Now It Can Be Told Dept.: Special camera angles had to be used in every single scene of the smash movie, *Rocky*. Reason: **SYLVESTER STALLONE** is only four-foot-three! In the scene where Rocky appears to be punching a huge side of beef in a frozen meat locker, "Tiny" Stallone was actually punching a spare rib!

ELTON JOHN has been taking ventriloquist lessons for the past five years. Whenever you see him singing with **KIKI DEE**, that's actually Elton doing both voices ....**DINAH SHORE** and **HENRY WINKLER** have decided to call it quits .... Does that mean that Henry will go running back to his first wife, **KRISTY McNICHOL**?

Amazing coincidence: All of the cast members of **THE BRADY BUNCH** are really related in real life!.... However, the **JACKSON 5** are *not* related. They were all hired after extensive auditions....

Finally, a MOVIE-TV LIES exclusive brought to us by a former maid of **FARRAH FAWCETT-MAJORS**. Our informant reveals that Farrah owns more than 30 different blonde-haired wigs, and has never been seen in public without a wig on! "Farrah actually wears her hair in a very short wedge," our informant says, "but no one — not even her husband **ROCK HUDSON** has ever seen her real hair!" Why the cover up, Farrah?....

Well, more white lies and whopping fibs from **THE LIAR'S DEN** next time. And that's the honest truth!

Specially built set makes it appear that Sylvester Stallone is taller than *Rocky* co-star Lily Tomlin. But in real life, she is two feet taller than he is!

Yes, Farrah is gone, but Charlie's Angels carry on without her. That's Farrah's replacement, Barbi Benton, in the upper left.

KISS "WE DON'T WEAR MAKEUP!"

"Our bag is mellow rock, but people still make up crazy rumors about us." That's Gene Stimson talking. He's the leader of the trio that's shaking up the music business — Kiss. In recent months, Gene and the other two members of Kiss, Mickey Dolenz and Davey Jones, have become more and more worried about some of the wild stories that are being told about Kiss.

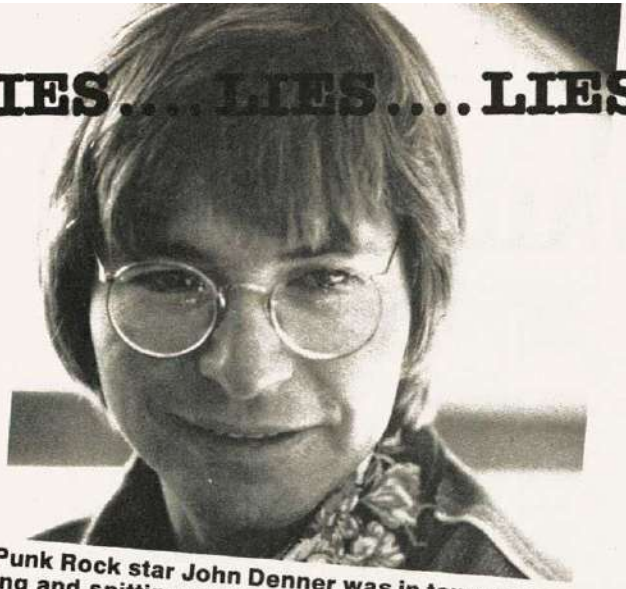
"One newspaper wrote that we wear live chickens around our waists everywhere we go," Gene told MOVIE-TV LIES. "Well, that's just ridiculous. The chickens are *not* live. A chicken has to be killed, cleaned, and plucked before we'll wear it in public!"

We were proud that Gene chose our magazine to spread more lies about Kiss. "People say that I swallow fire onstage," Gene said. "That's absurd. I tried it once and it gave me heartburn. Besides, I'd be afraid I might burn my accordion if there was fire onstage."

Finally, Gene told us about letters he's been getting from Kiss fans. "They write and ask us how we do our makeup. I can't believe it. I don't know how to answer these letters. You see, we don't wear any makeup. Those stage lights are too hot for makeup. We just go out there in our street clothes.

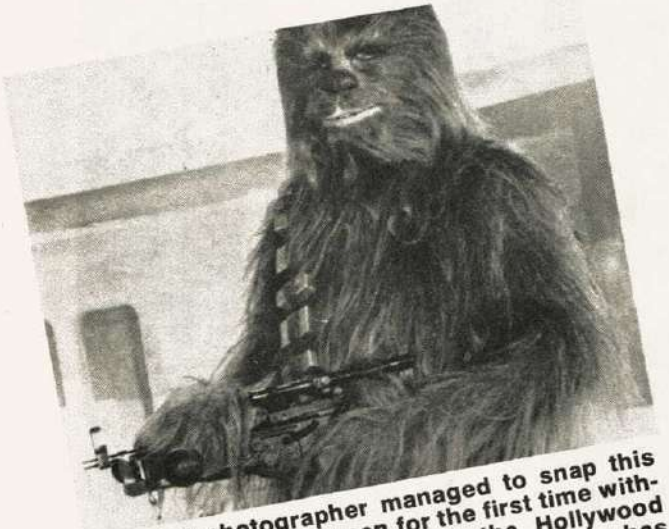
"We think our music speaks for itself without any phony gimmicks like makeup. Don't you agree?"

LIES....LIES....LIES....LIES....LIES....LIES....



Punk Rock star John Denner was in town sneering and spitting on the sidewalk, promoting his new album, *Rocky Mountain Punk Freaks.* When asked why his song lyrics are so angry and so filled with hate, Denner smiled and replied, "Go jump in a lake, man."

Although he has been out of sight to most of his fans, they will be glad to see that Elton John is still wearing those outtasite specs! Elton himself stopped in to the MOVIE-TV LIES office to borrow a few bucks, and walked straight into a wall! What a riot!



A candid photographer managed to snap this shot of Chewbacca, seen for the first time without any makeup. Despite all the Hollywood rumors, the talented wookie claims that he has no romantic interests at this time. He is seen here about to fire a submachine gun at passersby near his Beverly Hills home.

Wonder Woman Lynda Carter forms the "V For Victory" sign after her wedding to Shaun Cassidy. Lynda's wedding dress dates back to the 1780's and is a family heirloom.

THE LIE LINE....

DEAR LIE LINE:

I read your magazine every month and always enjoy the lies you publish. I don't know where you get some of those fantastic lies, but I have to compliment you and say that your magazine is far more untrue than any other magazine I've ever read!

In your next issue, please tell some lies about Elizabeth Taylor, Jaclyn Smith, and Henry Winkler. Thank you.

B.W., Moose, MS

DEAR LIE LINE:

Your magazine is one of a kind. I read it whenever I can and I never believe a word of it! Keep up the slanders, innuendo, and foul play.

About four months ago, I sent you a check for $12 for a one-year subscription to your magazine. So far, I haven't received anything from you. Were you lying when you said you'd send 12 issues for $12 and refund our money if we weren't satisfied?

R.L., Mouse, MI

Yes, we were lying. You just threw away $12.

—Editor

DEAR LIE LINE:

I usually enjoy your falsehoods, mistakes, and faked photographs, but last month you really goofed.

In your article about Farrah Fawcett-Majors, you said that she was born in Texas and is married to Lee Majors.

If I'm not mistaken, that's the absolute truth! What's wrong with you people? If you keep this up, I'll start to believe everything you publish! Shape up!

R.D., Mice, MN

We apologize, R.D. We have a large staff that checks over every lie we publish. But every once in a while, a true fact slips by us and gets into the magazine. Luckily, it doesn't happen often.

—Editor

Address all mail for the LIE LINE to: Box 22, Pain, VT 40306. (This address is a lie – not our real address.)

HENRY: "WHY I'M FED UP WITH FONZIE!"

"Yes, I'm depressed," Henry Winkle told MOVIE-TV LIES. "I'm so depressed, I can barely raise my thumbs."

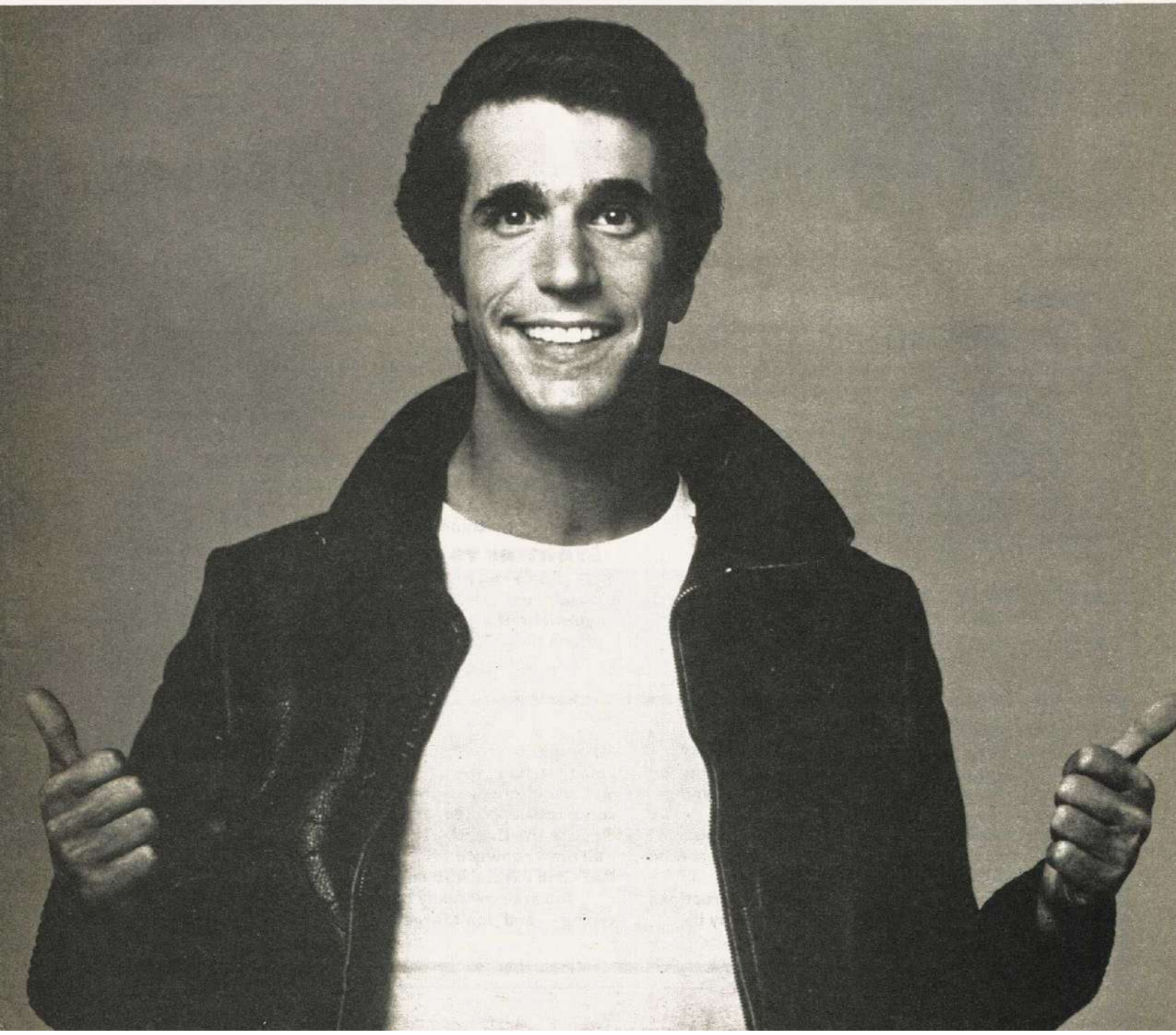
We talked briefly with Henry in his dressing room as he carefully put on the greasy black wig he wears on *Happy Daze*. We watched as the 14-year-old actor applied wrinkles and lines under his eyes to make himself look older.

"It's this show, *Happy Daze,* that's got me down," Henry said sadly. "It just isn't what I want to do anymore. I'm a comedian. You have to understand that. All I really want to do is make people laugh.

"If I were a serious actor, I'd really enjoy playing the Fonz. But I'm a funnyman. I want to throw pies, take a pratfall, walk into walls — the character of Fonzie is just too serious for a comic like me.

"I feel that I'm stuck in a rut, playing this serious character. I want to do something light, something silly for a change."

We said good-bye to Henry and watched as he walked onto the *Happy Daze* set, his face becoming more serious with each step. The cameras started to roll and we could hear him saying, "Aaay, sit on it!" Some day soon, we know, Henry will get to do what he really wants to do, and we'll be seeing him say much, much sillier things.



Are you a one-finger typist? Does it take you two weeks to address an envelope? Do you have to ask your teacher for an extension on that report — an extension until 1989? Is unsightly Finger Fatigue threatening your social life?

If you answered yes or maybe to any of these questions, the BANANAS TOUCH TYPING SYSTEM is for you! After just one lesson using the BANANAS TOUCH TYPING SYSTEM (and 500 hours of intensive practice at one sitting) you will increase your typing speed by 100 PER CENT!!

How is this possible? By adding a second finger!!

THE BANANAS TYPING LESSON

By Joe Arthur

POSTURE

Most professional typists work while seated, and a high percentage of them indicate that they prefer chairs. Others place their typewriters on tables. Typewriter stands are fine for short periods, but they don't give much support to your back.

We know of one typist who prefers to work in bed, levelling the typewriter on piles of cracker crumbs. Or, you may wish to move your machine out to the pool, floating it on a styrofoam duck. If you have an electric typewriter, try to keep the cord out of the water. Electrocution can seriously slow down your typing speed.

SWITCHING ON YOUR TYPEWRITER

Turn the switch on your typewriter to ON. If the typewriter begins to hum, you have an electric typewriter. If the typewriter does not hum, you have a manual typewriter. If you begin to hum, see your doctor or typewriter repairman.

You will be able to get the most efficient use from your electric typewriter if you use a high intensity, very bright electric light. If you have a manual typewriter, you don't need any light.

SWITCHING OFF YOUR TYPEWRITER

Follow the directions in the preceding section, only backwards. If you have a manual typewriter, you cannot turn your machine off no matter how hard you try.

STARTING TO TYPE

Study the Keyboard Chart on page seven. Locate the three most commonly used letters in all typewriterdom — E, Z, and X^2. If you cannot find them, phone the police — you have been robbed!

TYPING CHECKLIST

Try to sit no further than one arm's length away from your typewriter. If you still cannot reach the keys, use a stick. You are now ready to initiate the typing process.

1. Push the MARGIN RELEASE key to give yourself adequate space in which to work. For additional room, push the SPACE BAR.

2. Check to make sure the room has no obstructions that may interfere with your typing. This may be accomplished by pushing the CLEAR key. Check behind you by striking the key marked BACK SPACE.

3. Carefully depress the SHIFT key. Do not allow it to become too depressed, or you'll never be able to cheer it up.

4. Ease the CARRIAGE RELEASE LEVER forward. Pull down slowly on the SHIFT key till you feel the RATCHET RELEASE engage.

You are now ready to operate your machine. Good typing — and don't forget to use your rear view mirror!

TYPEWRITER KEYBOARD CHART

Illustration by Walter Velez

TYPING LESSONS

These lessons have been carefully designed to become more difficult very gradually. When you feel you have mastered the first lesson, move right on to the next, slightly harder lesson.

LESSON ONE

do be do be doo lalalala hoo ha sha na na po po pe do lang a lang a ding dong sha boom sha boom la la la la la la la la la la la scoo be doo be doo.

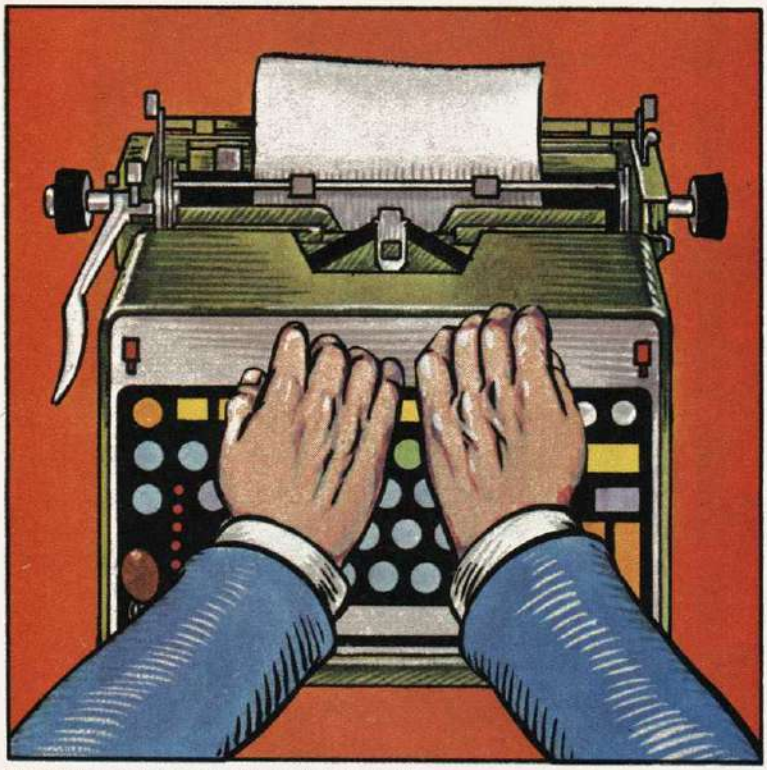
LESSON TWO

experimental procedures involved in such microscopic and yet psychological measurements were brought to a degree of laboratory perfection by Szysninsky Melanklonskowiecz, observing the equilibrium between the precipitate of the reversible.

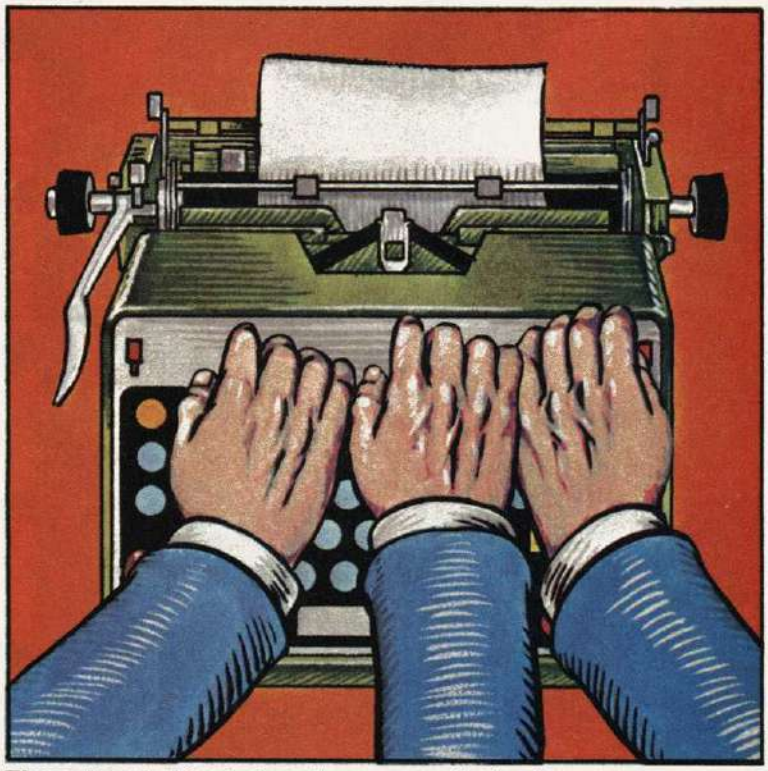
CHECKING YOUR SPEED

You needn't begin worrying about your speed until midway through the first lesson. On the other hand, if you wait until you've completed that lesson, it may be too late!

Be careful — in some schools the speed at which you're typing is checked by radar. If you fail to follow the typing speed limits, your fingers could be revoked for up to 30 days!



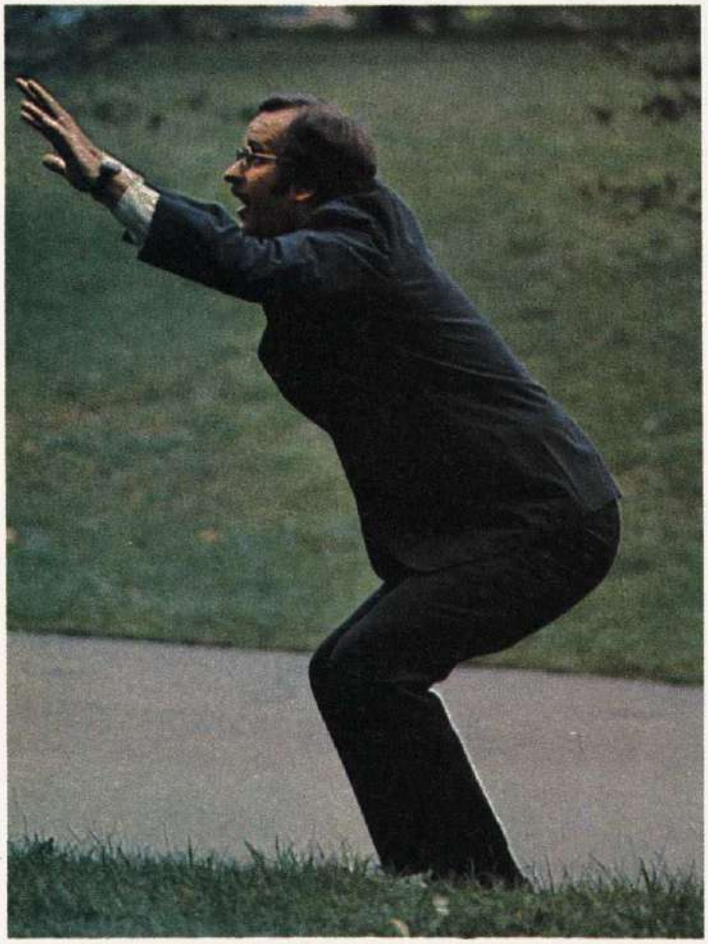
Proper position for hands on keys.



Three-handed technique has proven faster for many advanced typists.

What can we do for you? We'll do anything — just because ....

Ella Vatorshooz, 30, of Bleak, Montana, writes: "I know that people have always dreamed of flying, but recently I read about a man in Iowa who really can fly — just like Superman. It must be some sort of miracle, don't you think? Could you find him and show him to us? I'd like to take flying lessons from him some day."



We flew a photographer to Bleak, Iowa, to check out a Mr. Wynn Placenshow and see if he really can fly. Our photographer came back amazed! Believe it or not, Mr. Placenshow can fly — without any mechanical devices of any kind. As proof, here is the incredible photo our photographer brought back of Mr. Placenshow about to take off. You Asked For It!

Lem Chops, 43, of Bleak, Nebraska, writes: "Is it true that there's a guy in New Jersey who collects crabgrass of the stars? I've been fascinated by crabgrass all my life, as I'm sure many of your readers are. Please show us his collection!"

Glad to, Lem. Orin Juice boasts the biggest celebrity crabgrass collection in the world — three tons of crabgrass in all. From top to bottom: crabgrass from Farrah Fawcett-Majors' front lawn; crabgrass from Robert Redford's sun deck; and crabgrass flown all the way from England from Elton John's private soccer field. Orin says that some day he hopes to take his crabgrass collection and throw it away somewhere. You Asked For It!

Who invented the banana? Someone who got tired of unwrapped fruit? Someone opening a fast-food stand for chimpanzees? Well, we don't know the answer to that one. And here are some other answers we don't know to questions you never asked, as BANANAS takes a look at...

INVENTORS INVENTING INVENTIONS!

Text: Jovial Bob Stine
Art: Lou Brooks

Garfield Ohio, inventor of hydraulic platform shoes with 20-foot heels, proudly claims to be the tallest inventor in the world. Without his shoes, Ohio is 12 feet tall. His girlfriend climbs a ladder when she wants to slap him in the face!

Alexander Graham Cracker did not invent the graham cracker. He was named after one.

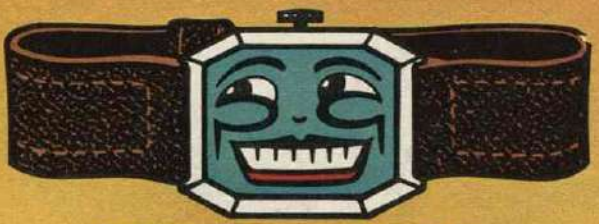
Inspired by the horsedrawn carriage (1640), Manuel Labor designed the horsedrawn horse. It was a horse pulled by another horse. Labor tragically drowned attempting to develop the horsedrawn surfboard.

The paper clip was actually invented 400 years before paper was discovered. For four centuries, people kept them in desk drawers, hoping that some day there'd be a use for them!

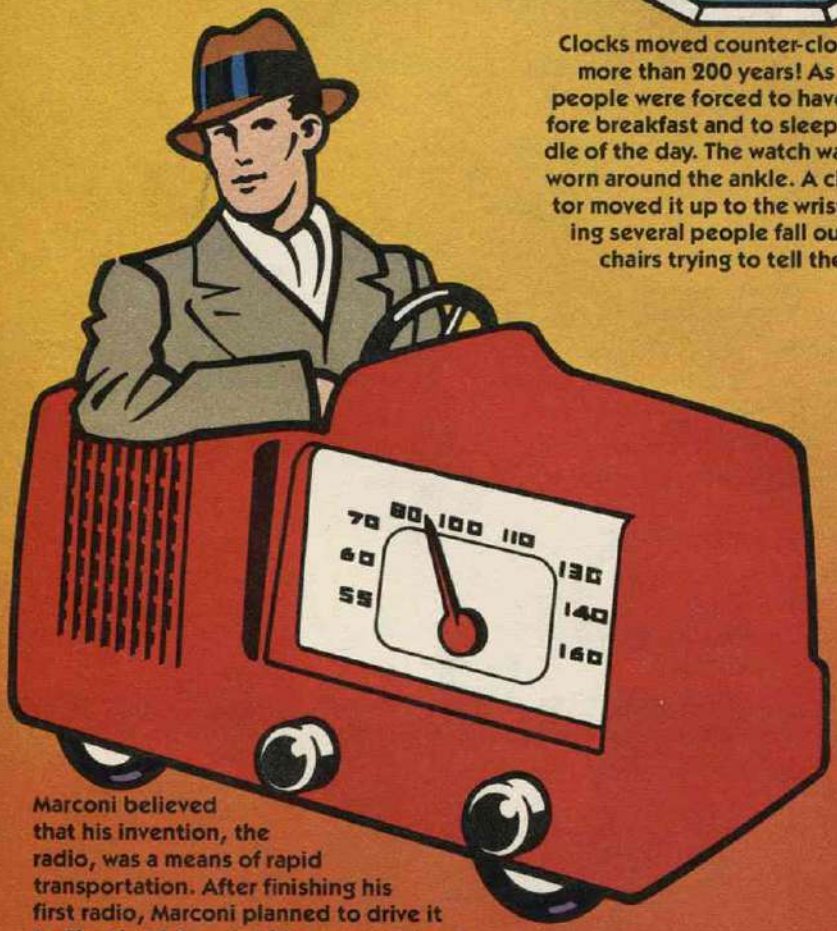
Alfalfa N. Barley, who claimed to be the world's most ridiculed inventor, spent his entire miserable life on two projects—the edible bath tub and the underwater hang glider. Barley died years before he could witness the mass popularity of his two inventions.

Tuesday was actually invented on a Wednesday! When the new day was added to the calendar, everyone's bowling night had to be changed.

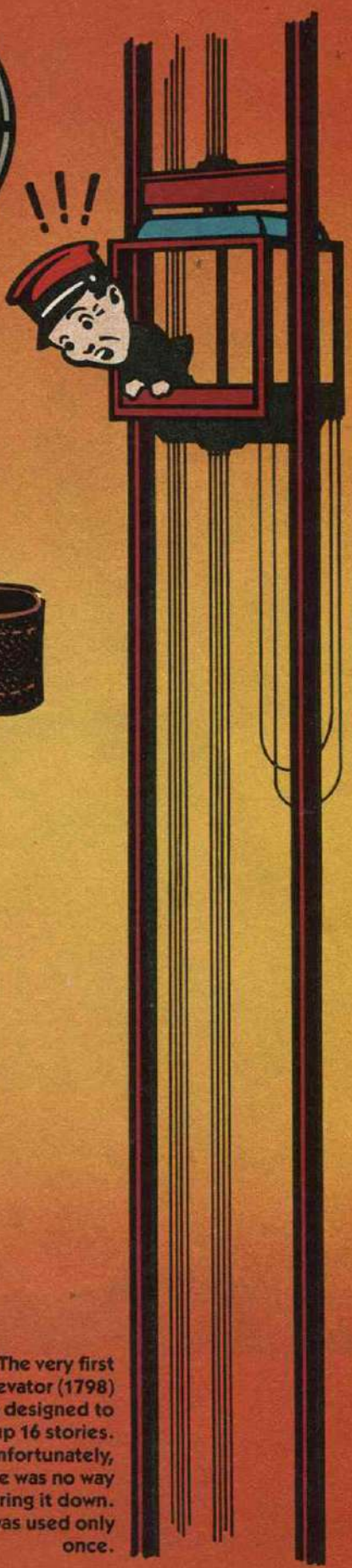
Wynn Plasenshow, who invented the parking meter in 1677, kept three of them in his living room. Guests could not sit down on the sofa without putting a quarter in the meter. Those who did not were promptly murdered.



Clocks moved counter-clockwise for more than 200 years! As a result, people were forced to have lunch before breakfast and to sleep in the middle of the day. The watch was originally worn around the ankle. A clever inventor moved it up to the wrist after seeing several people fall out of their chairs trying to tell the time.



Marconi believed that his invention, the radio, was a means of rapid transportation. After finishing his first radio, Marconi planned to drive it to Cleveland. Imagine his surprise when he turned it on, and music came out!



The very first elevator (1798) was designed to go up 16 stories. Unfortunately, there was no way to bring it down. It was used only once.

BROOKS

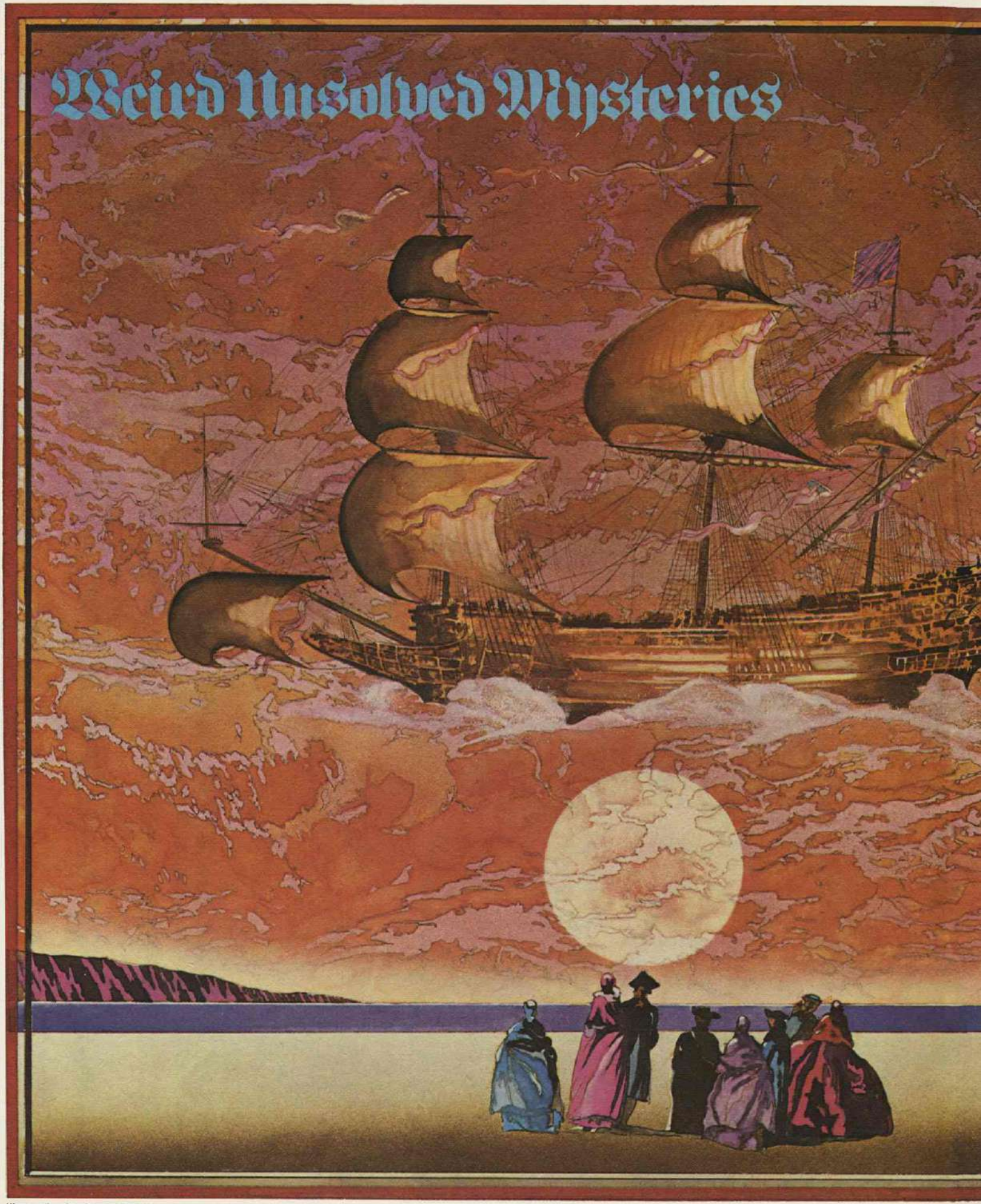
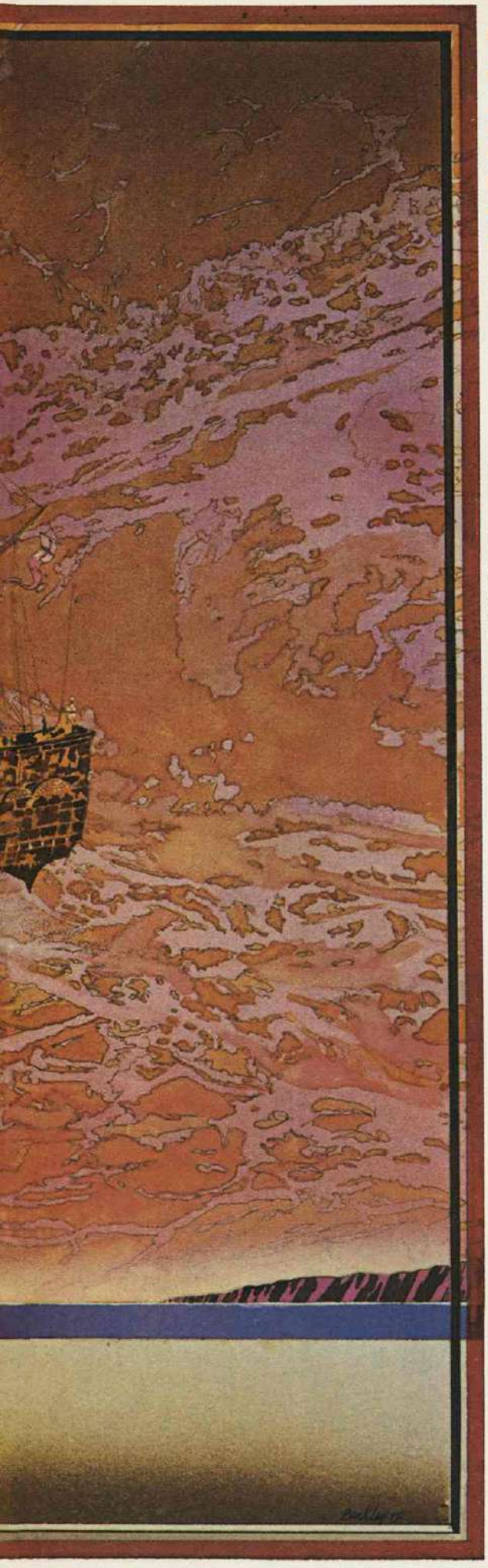


Illustration by James Barkley



THE PHANTOM SHIP OF NEW HAVEN

For the colonists of New Haven, Connecticut, happiness in 1645 was owning your own ship.

They needed a ship to send their goods for sale to England. For years, New Haven wheat, lumber, and beaver pelts had gone to Britain in Massachusetts ships. But the shipping rates kept going up and the profits kept going down. The people of New Haven decided it was time to shop around for a vessel they could call their own.

They found her, "the Great Shippe," in a Rhode Island boatyard. She was big enough to carry 150 tons of cargo. The colonists pooled their cash, bought her — and got far more than they ever bargained for!

Delivery day rolled around. Everybody in New Haven went down to the wharf to see the ship come in. But some of them didn't like what they saw. The one who liked it the least was Mr. Lamberton, who had been chosen by his neighbors to be the ship's captain.

"Look how she rolls!" snorted Lamberton. "She's overmasted. If you breathe hard on her, she'll capsize!"

Lamberton ordered the ship into drydock so she could be rebuilt to meet his idea of a seaworthy vessel. The rebuilding cost more money. By now, the colonists were tapped out. But they consoled themselves with the thought that once their goods were sold in England, there would be plenty of money.

The rebuilding took months. When it was finally finished, winter had set in — but the colonists couldn't have cared less. They loaded their vessel with furs, planks, and grain. Then in January, 1646, they chopped a three-mile channel through the ice in the frozen harbor so that the Great Shippe could sail out to the open sea.

Winter passed and spring came — but the Great Shippe did not return. In the summer, word came from England. The Great Shippe had never arrived there. It was as though she had sailed into outer space after leaving New Haven!

By June of 1647, hard times gripped the colony. To add to the misery, the weather was rotten. Torrents of rain poured down, turning the streets into swamps, and flooding the fields. Then at the end of June, a terrible thunderstorm battered the town. Lightning struck several cows in the fields, and one tremendous bolt burned a jagged path toward the harbor.

When the storm stopped, the colonists ventured nervously out of their homes. They looked at each other uneasily. A deathly stillness hung over the land, and low ominous clouds rode in from the harbor, lit by stray flashes of lightning.

No one spoke, but everyone seemed to feel that something unforgettable was about to happen — and it did! An hour before sunset, the Great Shippe came into view at the mouth of the harbor. But the cheers which broke out stopped suddenly. The ship was not in the water. It was sailing swiftly toward them on one of those low, eerie clouds!

Everyone there saw this plainly. They also saw Captain Lamberton standing on the deck, looking at them with a mournful expression. As the ship reached the shore, he raised his arm, shook his head, and pointed out to sea.

Stunned, the people stood staring upward as the cloud rushed over the town, driven by a phantom wind. But as the Great Shippe passed by, she seemed to disintegrate before their eyes. Her masts cracked and fell. Her sails tore away. Then the hull slowly rolled over, capsizing in mid-air. The Great Shippe slowly sank into the cloud, out of sight.

No one who witnessed this needed to be told that they were seeing a replay of what had happened to their ship — perhaps months before. It was as though Captain Lamberton had returned from the dead to try to tell his friends and neighbors that there was no hope — for their ship or their money.

And no one there needed to be told that the mournful expression on Lamberton's face would be on all their faces for a long time to come. With the loss of the Great Shippe, the New Haven colony soon went broke.

—MARGARET RONAN

Okay, gang, you've enjoyed Great Moments in Gangrene, Great Moments in Soup Slurping, and Great Moments in Paper Bag Repair—Get ready for another installment!

Great Moments In Winter!

Text: Joe Claro Art: Bob Taylor

H.S. principal Phil A. Mignon earned a spot in the School Administrators Hall of Fame for his surprise fire drill on a 6-below-zero day in Frostbite, ND. Students filed out of the building and stood outside without hats, coats, or even mittens. When Mignon gave the all-clear signal 20 minutes later, seven students were actually able to walk back inside. The remaining students performed as an ice sculpture until the spring thaw.

Wayne Dwops of Cannibal, MO, holds the record for Most Bones Broken During a Skiing Accident. The exact number of bones is not known. Wayne's doctors found it easier to say that he did not break his left pinky toe and a little bone just above his left knee. Quipped Wayne, "I always wanted to be an actor. So I'm happy to finally be in a cast!" Wayne's friends say they will wait until he is all healed before beating him to death for telling such a lousy joke!

In December, Val U. Judgment, 42, stunned his family with an astounding feat of memory. Val pulled the plug on the TV, refusing to allow his family to see another series of reruns of holiday cartoon specials—each of which they had all seen for the past 12 years. Instead, Val recited every line of dialogue and sang every song from every holiday cartoon special on every network. When he was finished, his family asked why he left out the commercials!

Sportsman Ray D.O. Program turned his attention to ice-fishing this winter. He spent hundreds of dollars on new equipment, put on several pairs of heavy socks, and spent six hours ice-fishing at a pond near his home. When he returned home, his wife asked how many fish he had caught. "Fish?" he said. "What does ice-fishing have to do with fish? Look—I've got 16 terrific blocks of ice!!"

GRANNY MEATLOAF'S ADVICE COLUMN

Got a Serious Problem? Tell it to Granny!

DEAR GRANNY MEATLOAF:

My problem may seem small to you, but it's a big one to me. You see, I have a dwarf apple tree growing on my head. Every fall, the tree blossoms with apples, and the apples cover my eyes.

My friends all tease me a lot, Granny. They yell "Timberrrr!" every time I walk by with this tree growing out of my head. And they kid me a lot because it's so difficult for me to find a hat in my size — 453-1/4.

I'd go to a doctor and get the tree removed, but my family needs the apples. What should I do, Granny? I'm desperate.

JOHNNY APPLEHEAD

DEAR JOHNNY APPLEHEAD:

Hats come in a variety of sizes and shapes, and the best way to find the one that's right for you is to go to a store and try several on. If the brim keeps bumping the back of your neck, you probably have the hat on backwards. Turn it around and I'm sure your problem will be solved.

DEAR GRANNY MEATLOAF:

I am terribly shy. Whenever I am at a party or over at someone's house and a boy comes up to talk to me, I try to hide under a chair. If there isn't a chair around to hide under, I get violently ill and have to run out of the room.

Granny, why can't I be like other girls? I want to have friends and talk to boys and do all the things normal teens do. Why do I feel I must duck under a chair the first time someone says hi to me? Is there anything at all you can do to help me?

SHY ONE

DEAR SHY ONE:

I seem to have misplaced my eyeglasses. Now, where did I put them? Golly, gee willickers, I can't find those specs anywhere! Sorry, honey, your letter is all just a big blur to me.

DEAR GRANNY MEATLOAF:

My pals and I have a big problem. We know a guy who has a dwarf apple tree growing out of his head. He wants to be part of our group, but we really don't want him as a friend.

You see, he's always dropping his leaves everywhere he goes. And sometimes apples fall off the tree and hit us on the head. What a drag!

We don't want to hurt his feelings, Granny. But my friends and I are pretty cool, and we just don't want to be seen with a guy who has a tree on his head. What can we do?

COOL DUDE

DEAR COOL DUDE:

Everyone enjoys a hot apple crumb cobbler in weather like this. But be sure to let it cool before serving. Otherwise, you might burn your guts out. Harvest your apples when they are bright red and come easily off the tree. If you find that your apples are yellow and fuzzy, they are probably peaches. I hope this solves your problem.

DEAR GRANNY MEATLOAF:

Are you putting us on, or what? I read every word of your column, and it doesn't seem to make any sense at all. Are you crazy? Or am I just not following your advice?

WORRIED SICK

DEAR WORRIED SICK:

Dip the cotton slowly in chocolate milk. Allow it to absorb the liquid completely before swallowing.

GROW FRESH VEGETABLES IN WINTER?

Yes — with

FURRY'S ALL-WEATHER SEEDS!

Plant 'em now — these vegetables are so fresh, they taste like frozen!

FURRY'S

The Best in Furry Vegetables Since 1976!

Illustration by Erich Barnes

Bring your taste buds in from the cold with these wet winter ideas to warm your insides and fire your imagination ....

BANANAS GUIDE TO THE COOLEST HOT DRINKS!

By Fran Claro

CRAN YOU DIG IT?

Put away that hot chocolate — here's a new idea we know you'll warm up to. We think you'll agree it's a berry good drink.

Ingredients:

1 cup cranberry juice for each serving
1 thin slice lemon for each serving
2 cloves for each serving

Mix all the ingredients together in a pan. Heat well over a medium flame. Do not allow it to boil. Serve with cinnamon stick stirrers. Not sweet enough for you? Pass the honey — and smile.

APPLE-TIZING FRUIT PUNCH

Hot apple cider is okay — but why not try something more core-ageous? This recipe makes four to five super servings.

Ingredients:

½ cup sugar
1 cup water
Cinnamon sticks
Sprinkle of ginger
1 cup orange juice
½ cup lemon juice
2 cups apple juice, or cider

Combine the sugar and the water. Bring to a boil over high heat. Boil for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat. Add the spices. Let it stand for about half an hour.

Then add the orange, lemon, and apple juices. Bring it back to a boil. Pour the punch and enjoy!

POUR A PIZZA!

When it's icy, it's time to get spicy! How about pizza in a cup?
Ingredients:
1 packet instant beef bouillon per serving
1 cup tomato juice per serving
Spices of your choice: red pepper, oregano, garlic salt, etc.

Empty the bouillon into each cup. Add the spice or spices of your choice. Heat the tomato juice to boiling. Pour the boiling tomato juice into each cup. Stir and serve up the pizza!

CHOCK FULL O' CHOCOLATE

If you still go bananas for hot chocolate — why not actually add bananas? Make your hot chocolate in the usual way. Then over the whipped cream or marshmallows add a few banana slices. If that doesn't ap-peel to you, here are some other cool hot chocolate ideas:

Hot Chocolate Malted: Add two teaspoons of malt (regular or chocolate flavor) to your favorite hot chocolate mix. Pour over this, ½ cup boiling water and ½ cup hot milk. Stir and serve.

Chocolate Almond Delight: Finally, here's a nutty idea. Top your favorite hot chocolate with whipped cream that has been flavored with ½ teaspoon almond extract and 2 teaspoons sugar. Then sprinkle the cream with chopped almonds.

Illustration by Don Brautigam

THIS IS YOUR STORY

PAUL McCARTNEY

"Oof — can't imagine us rockin' when we're 30, can you?" That's what the Beatles used to say several years ago. Well, you're 35, Paul. The Beatles are no longer rockin' together — but you're still going strong! Now, let's all sing "Yesterday," and turn back the pages of your life.

FLASHBACK — Liverpool, England. It's June 18, 1942. James and Mary McCartney have a new son — you! Your family isn't rich, but they're very close-knit. Mom makes sure her sons are neat, clean, and polite. Even so, you manage a prank or two as a lad.

Some of the pranks don't turn out too well. Remember that unauthorized swim you took? You nearly drowned, Paul. If your younger brother Mike hadn't held onto your arm and screamed for help, our music might have been a lot poorer today.

Your parents encourage your efforts at anything you try — provided it's on dry land. One day, Dad buys you a six-string guitar. You immediately pick out the chords to "All Shook Up." No one is too shook up by your playing, Paul — but it's a start!

FLASHBACK — 1955. By now, you're pretty good on that guitar — good enough to be noticed by a local rock band, the Quarrymen. Their leader, a tough kid named John Lennon, invites you to a rehearsal. You join the group and begin a long friendship with John.

When your mother dies in 1956, you are only 14. The band becomes even more important to you. Two years later, the Quarrymen add another member — George Harrison.

Paul, do you remember Johnny and the Moondogs? How about the Silver Beatles? Yes, those were names you called your group for short periods. But, Paul, who were the Nurk Twins? That's right — that's the name Lennon-McCartney first used when they appeared as a duo! Didn't think we'd dig that one up, did you!

FLASHBACK — 1963. It's autumn in England, but springtime for the Beatles. After an appearance on a TV show, all of England is asking, "Who *are* these Beatles?"

Today, of couse, no one has to ask about the phenomenon that was called the Beatles. From "All My Loving" to "Let It Be," your music changed our lives. Your life changed too. There you were, wearing fine clothes, driving big cars, attending all sorts of social and cultural events. "I'm trying to cram everything in," you explain, "all the things that I missed."

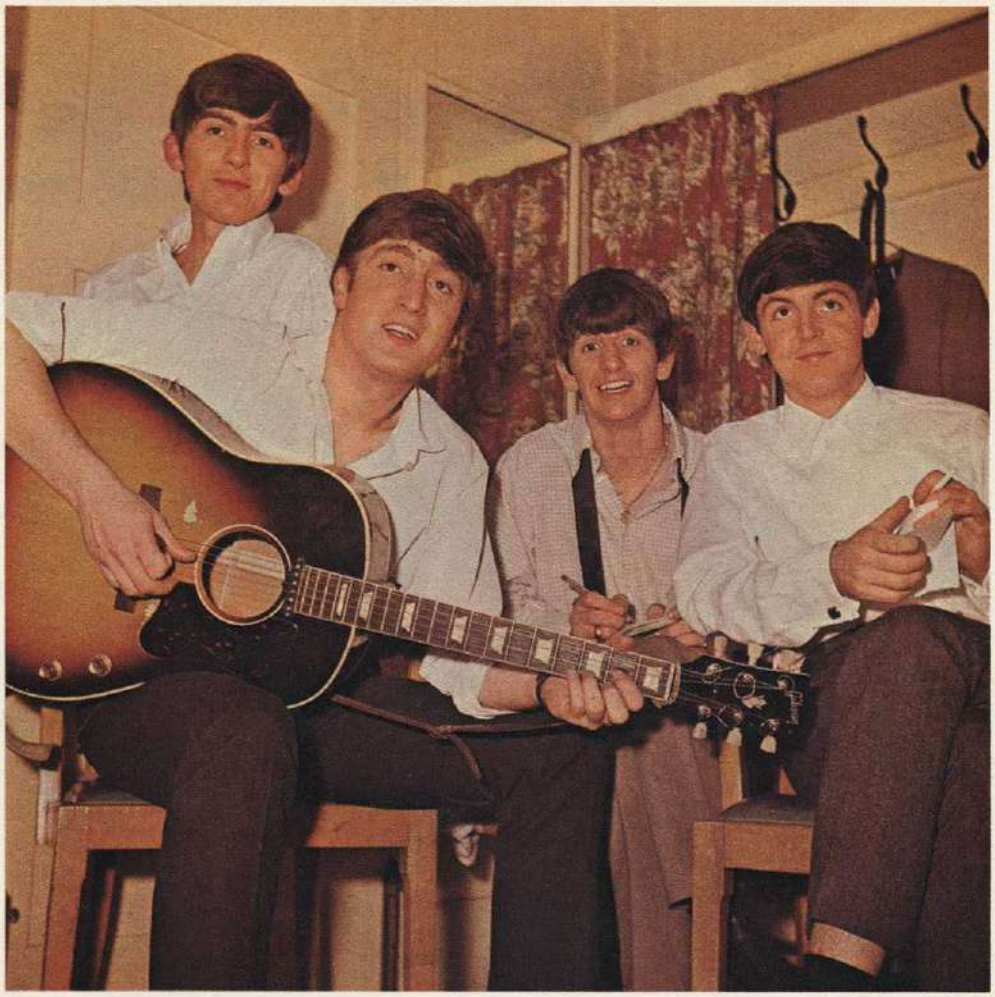
FLASHBACK — Paul Is Dead! In 1969, a macabre rumor spreads among Beatles fans that you are actually dead. People say that there are clues regarding your death in Beatles records and on their album jackets. At the end of "Strawberry Fields," John seems to say, "I buried Paul." On the album jacket of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonelyhearts Club Band,* a patch on your uniform says, "OPD." People translate this as "Officially Pronounced Dead." People also point to the album cover of *Magical Mystery Tour* as a clue. There you are in a black carnation

while the other three are wearing red.

"It's all bloody stupid!" you fume. "I picked up that OPD badge in Canada. It means 'Ontario Police Department!' I was wearing a black carnation because we ran out of red ones! And do you know what John was saying at the end of 'Strawberry Fields'? He said, 'I'm very bored!' "

Well, okay, you're not dead, Paul. But sadly, a lot of the joy that kept the Beatles together *is* dead. After months of trying to pretend that everything is okay, you decide to leave the Beatles. Unfortunately, you find that you cannot leave the group without suing the other three members. "It's a pity," you say later. "I'd love to have had the Beatles go up in a little cloud of smoke, and the four of us in magic robes, each holding an envelope with our stuff in it."

You and your new wife, Linda Eastman, settle down on a farm in Scotland. Your popularity is now at an all-time low, you are out of work, your finances are so complicated no one can understand them, and you have literally lost your best friends. "I was left with a man whose whole world was falling apart," said Linda.



Far left: **Paul as a boy.** ***Left:*** **The sparks fly at Paul and Linda's wedding.** ***Above:*** **Paul looking angelic in this early Beatles photo.** ***Below:*** **Paul posing for a very special photographer—Linda.**

PART TWO

FLASHBACK — A New Direction. "The one thing that occurred to me," you say later, "was to go back to the factory floor and stop being the great illustrious figure. So I formed a little group. We all piled in a van and just took off up the motorway. We'd turn up at town and say, 'Excuse me, have you got a university?' And if they did, why we'd just pull up to it and play."

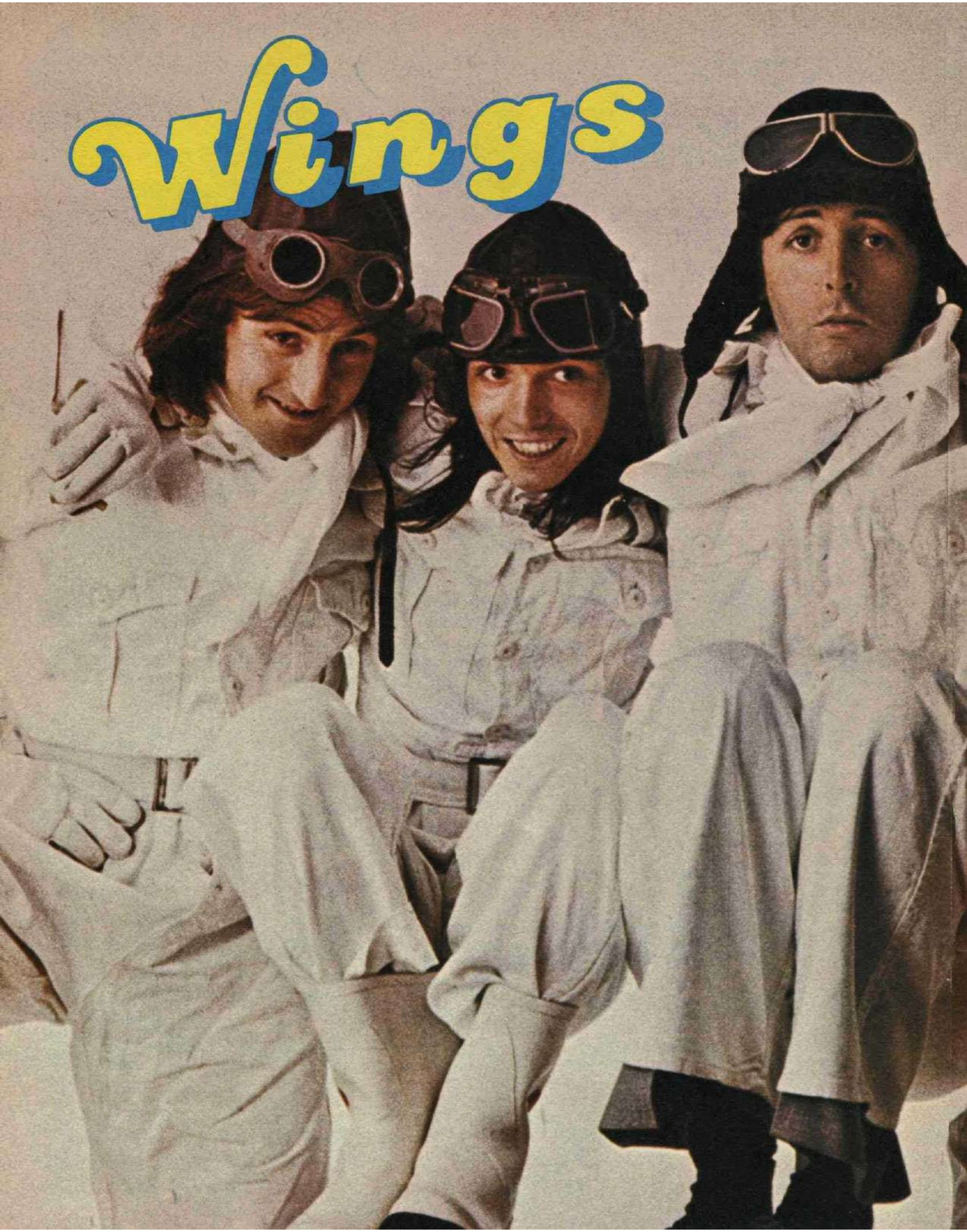
Wings takes off slowly. People criticize you for having Linda perform with the band. "I don't have to explain her away," you say. "She's my wife and I want her in the group. She'll improve." She does, and so does the group.

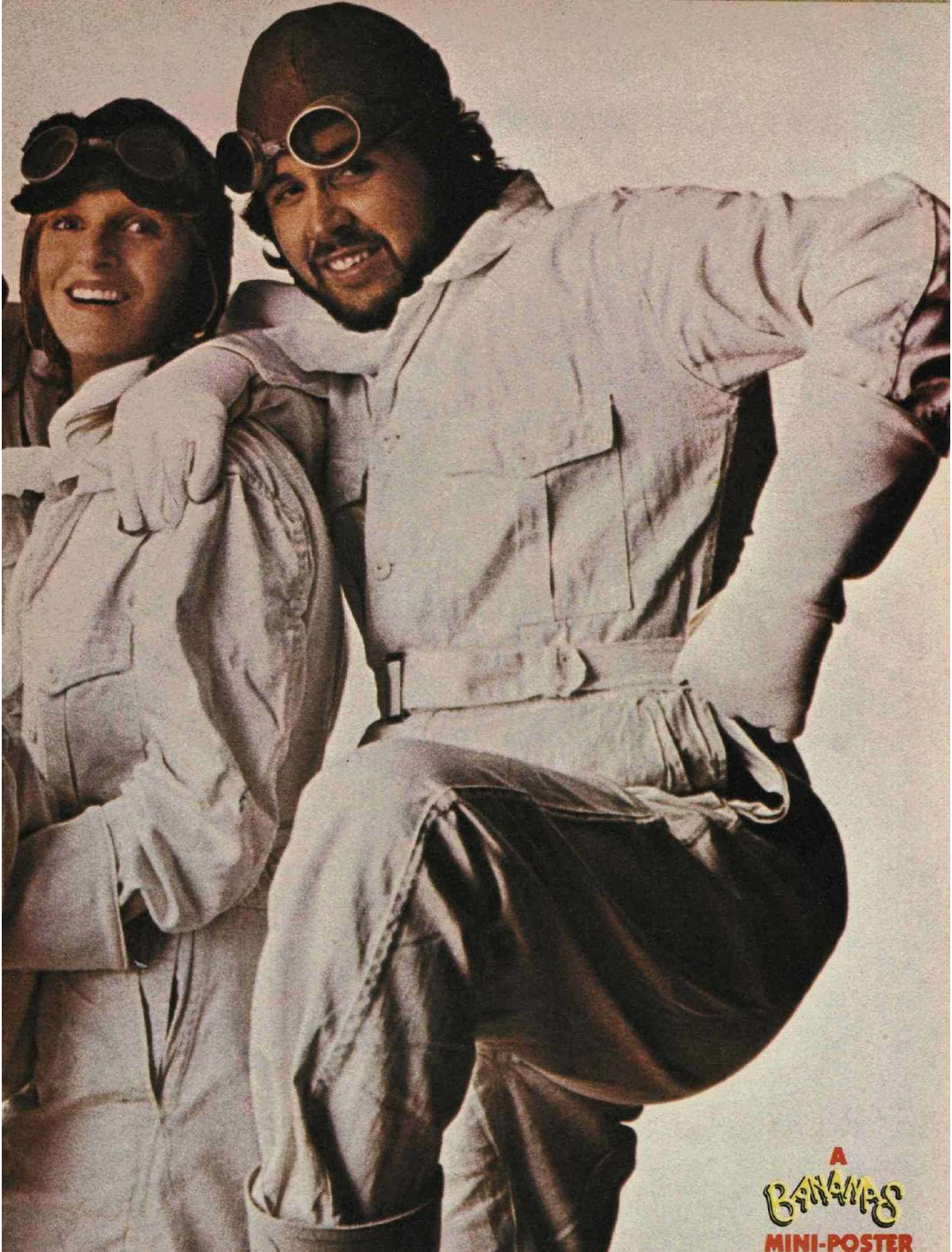
FLASHBACK — Band on the Run. In 1976, you bring Wings on an American tour. It's been 10 years since you were here last, Paul. Some of the fans that come to see you think of the Beatles as ancient history. They've come to hear your hit songs from *Venus and Mars, Wings at the Speed of Sound, Band on the Run,* and other Wings albums. Yet you open with a bit of nostalgia. Alone in center stage you softly break into "Yesterday." Said one who was there, "The place went up for grabs!"

FLASHBACK — Today. You and Linda are firm but loving parents to your daughters and new son. The band keeps on the run, and you take your family with you wherever you go. Besides writing more of those "Silly Love Songs" (and what's wrong with that?), you've been working on a TV film and an animated cartoon!

Over the years, you've made up with John, George, and Ringo. But despite the urgings of eager fans, you don't think the Beatles will be reunited. "You can't reheat a souffle," you say.

As great as the past has been, you continue to look forward to the future. No more talk about not being able to rock past the age of 30. "I might go on till I'm 90," you've said, "and just slow the songs down a bit!"


Wings



A BANANAS MINI-POSTER

Who decided to put KISS into a comic book? Did the rock group have anything to say about the story? Did KISS like the way the comic book turned out? Find out now in this exclusive story, as BANANAS goes....

Behind the Scenes at THE KISS COMIC BOOK!

The Demon leaps into the air, hissing fire while the Cat pounces on his startled prey. Starchild moves a vicious thug to helpless tears, and Space-Ace decides enough is enough, so he sends all four into another galaxy with a flick of his wrist!

Are these guys for real? Well, yes and no. They're all members of the rock group KISS – but you've never seen a rock group quite like this! That's because KISS has jumped into the comic pages as Marvel Comics superheroes!

The idea of turning a super group into superheroes came up in the office of Marvel Comics publisher, Stan Lee. BANANAS whisked over to Stan's office to get this exclusive story behind the story.

Why was KISS picked for hero-dom instead of another group? "Well, what with their costumes and their whole approach," Stan told us, "it seemed to me that the KISS group was more of a living comic strip already than any other group!" True enough. But wasn't there another reason as well? "I already knew some of the people involved in KISS," he said, "so that made it sort of easy."

One of Stan's friends was Gene Simmons – alias the Demon. Of course, if you count the endless hours Gene spent poring over comic books as a child, he's been "in touch" with Marvel for quite some time! "The man is a walking encyclopedia of comic memorabilia," said Stan. "I was on a plane with him coming back from Buffalo once, and he was telling me all sorts of things about stories that I had written 15 and 20 years ago, that I didn't remember at all!"

Needless to say, it didn't take a lot of persuasion to get KISS – and Gene in particular – into comic book form. But after the agreement, the real work began. Writers mapped out a story line and illustrators began translating KISS's magic onto paper. Aside from lending their identities, how much input did KISS have in the comic book?

"Oh, quite a lot," Stan told us. "It was more or less Steve Gerber's story, but he spent quite a bit of time with the group, and I'm sure they made a number of suggestions."

How did the Marvel people and the KISS people get along? As Stan put it, "Beautifully. Beautifully." And, he continued, "They're very easy guys to get along with. They're very pleasant guys!" (We believe you – honest! – but you may have to remind us the next time Gene comes howling onstage eating fire during a KISS stage appearance.)

Marvel had the final say on the finished product. But as Stan said, "We wouldn't have done it unless the KISS group liked it. Everybody had to like it."

Did they? Well, the Starchild beamed, the Space-Ace glowed, the Cat purred, and the Demon hissed happily. "They're wild about the magazine," said Stan. "They absolutely loved it." No wonder – it's not every day that a person goes from reading comics to becoming a character in one!

NO MAKEUP!!

What's different about KISS in comic book form? Well, for one thing it's novel to see Gene Simmons, Paul Stanley, Peter Criss, and Ace Frehley drawn as humans – without makeup! Then, after their transformations, each KISS character has special superpowers. The Cat has the grace and stealth of his namesake. The Starchild can use people's own emotions against them. The Space-Ace thumbs cosmic rides to some very far-out spots. And the Demon flies, sends his snakey shoes to do his bidding, and – of course – spits fire.

Now that KISS is looking out of comics instead of looking in them, what about other groups? "Oh, yes," Stan told us. "We're hoping to do a number of others in a similar vein." Sounds good, but Marvel isn't giving any hints as to which groups they might choose. "We're talking to a number of different people," was all Stan Lee would tell us.

And then he gave us one other piece of information: "Don't kiss KISS comics good-bye. There'll be more on the way."

That's good news for KISS fans. But of course we knew the four group members were superheroes all along!

– Suzanne Lord

Copyright © 1977 Marvel Comics Group and KISS/Aucoin Management Inc.

The three riotous roommates on *Three's Company* always seem to be having fun! But what's life really like on the set of this comedy hit? A few days before his wedding, John Ritter took time out to talk to BANANAS. In an exclusive interview, he told us about his life and what really goes on....

KEEPING COMPANY WITH

John

Suzanne

You're watching *Three's Company,* and after nearly 30 minutes of chaotic comedy, John Ritter suddenly leaps at his TV roommates and tickles them into hysterics! Could that be in the script? It looks as if they're having *too much* fun!

Well, John Ritter told us that working with Suzanne Somers and Joyce DeWitt *is* fun. "We're all really good friends," he said. "We tease each other a lot. We rub each other's backs. Sometimes I'll just leap at them and start tickling!"

John seems relaxed on or off the set. Hollywood isn't anything new to him. After all, his dad was Tex Ritter, a cowboy star who made many movies. While other kids dreamed of becoming cowboys, John met them! "I met Gene Autry when I was young," John told us, "and Johnny Cash. There were always cowboy stars around the house."

In high school, John didn't want to be a cowboy *or* an actor. "I wanted to be a politician," he explained. "I was president of the student body at Hollywood High, and president of my YMCA group. I really loved it." John stayed with politics almost all the way through the University of Southern California. "But then it got a little too serious," he says, "and I switched over to drama."

How did his parents take this switch? "My mom was very supportive, but my father didn't dig it," John recalled. "He was just worried about me—well, *starving*! He wanted me to have a good job to fall back on. And I really *didn't* have anything!"

Faced with the choice of acting or starving, John got right to work! His first break came in a Walt Disney film, *The Barefoot Executive.* Unfortunately, he shared billing with a chimpanzee!

Then he began guesting on television shows—almost all of them cops-and-robbers series. "It was funny," John told us. "I did *Hawaii-Five-O, Kojak, Dan August, Owen Marshall*....I played bad guys, good guys, and mixed-up guys!" Later, John did an unsuccessful pilot for MTM Productions. "But I got to know those guys," John says. He ended up doing a lot of guest appearances on shows such as *Phyllis* and *Mary Tyler Moore.* "It was really great training!"

THE WALTONS

People with famous parents are constantly being compared to them. But John has escaped this hassle. "Oddly enough," he said, "my father was not considered an actor. He was considered a country-western singer. And I *don't* sing—at ALL! I'm not a cowboy. The only range I know has four burners on it!"

His most "country" character role was as the preacher in *The Waltons.* It started as another guest shot. "I'd never seen *The Waltons,*" John admitted to BANANAS. "I kept calling them *The Walnuts!*

"The night before the audition," John continued, "I watched an evangelist on TV. I watched his accent and hand movements." Next day at the audition, John threw caution to the winds. "I just tore up the audience," he laughs, "screaming and chastising away. And I got the part!" John soon became a regular on *The Waltons.* "They just kept asking me back," he said. He and the cast became good friends, and still see one another.

NEW COMPANY

Hard as it was to leave Walton's Mountain, it had to happen. John just couldn't pass up the opportunity to star in *Three's Company.*

The show, unfortunately, started with some problems. It took a year of cast changes to find the right combination of characters! "It was bloodthirsty," John recalled. "I'm very proud of this show, and I really love the people. But it was a LONG, hard haul!"

Once the show got on the air, it took off! The laughs, however, aren't all on the screen. John and his roommates are always playing jokes on one another. Once the whole crew was exposed to hepatitis and had to get shots. "I'm not too crazy about needles," John told us, "so I decided to do a whole bit on it. I asked the script girl to hold my hand. I told the nurse I was going to scream—and I screamed! Then I went to rehearsal in a wheelchair. When the cast found out that I was faking, they chased me all over the studio in my wheelchair!"

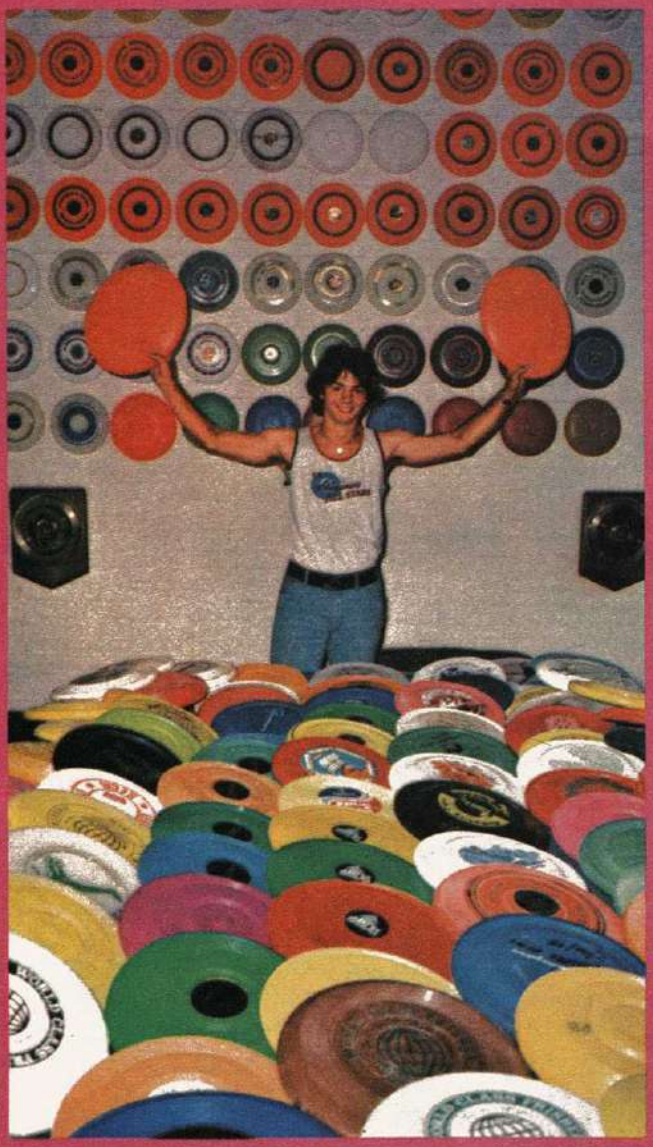
Soon after the show began, John began to get fan mail—lots of it! "All of a sudden I realized that there are homes all over the U.S.," John said. "People have televisions! It's terrifying!" Terrifying or not, John loves acting. So does his new wife, Nancy Morgan, who has been appearing on *The San Pedro Beach Bums.*

Advice for BANANAS readers who are thinking about acting as a career? "Just go ahead and *do* it," John said. "It's an incredible, exhilarating feeling!"

If you would like to write to John Ritter or the other cast members of *Three's Company,* address your letters to: *Three's Company,* ABC-TV, 4151 Prospect Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027.

—Suzanne Lord

WHY DOES PETER BLOEME OWN 2,000 FRISBEES?



He collects them. That's why. Peter is 20, and has been playing with frisbees since he was 12. But he only started tossing his collection together in 1974.

Why? "Hard to say. I'd enter frisbee tournaments and see some I'd really like to own, and before I knew it, I had a collection." Peter carries about 40 frisbees with him to every frisbee tournament he enters – 20 for competing and the rest for trading.

Are there really that many different kinds of frisbees? Yes, there are. Peter's collection begins with one of Mrs. Frisbie's original pie tins and includes all of the latest American and foreign model discs.

"The first line of frisbees was the white Pro with solid black lines," Peter told BANANAS. "Then they brought out the color pros. The prettiest are the ones with stickers in different shapes. There's the hex label, the round labels, and some with Olympic rings.

"There are 10 different models sold in stores. There's the Super Pro, the Master, the Moonlighter, the Pro Line, and several others. They all have different sizes, shapes, and weights, and all the lines come in different colors. The original pie tins that inspired people to manufacture the frisbee are now selling for up to $100!"

That's a lot of money to toss around – but it's worth it for a collection that will make your head spin!

– Story & photos by David Kutz

At first, the other drivers thought it was a joke! But they didn't laugh for long when they started to compete against ....

THE AMAZING 6-WHEEL RACER!

It all started a few years ago when Team Tyrrell race car designer Derek Gardner showed two drivers his secret plans for a new Formula One car. The drivers gasped in disbelief. "A car with six wheels?" they cried.

Gardner's idea was to put two wheels on each side in the front to make the car as low and as narrow as possible. "With the extra rubber on the road, we can brake and steer better," he said.

A team of mechanics spent millions of dollars building two of the strange new cars. The cars' first race was at the Spanish Grand Prix. When the rival drivers saw the car, they burst out laughing. But they weren't laughing for long. The six-wheeler was one of the fastest cars in practice.

During the gruelling practice run, driver Jody Scheckter lost one of his front wheels. The wheel just broke off. But when Jody drove into the pits, his mechanics didn't even notice that it was missing! "It's like having a spare along," said Jody.

Three races later, in Sweden, the amazing six-wheeler won its first race. Rival drivers weren't laughing anymore!

—Story & photos by Frank Ruch & Ellen Starr Swan

(Special thanks to Watkins Glen Grand Prix and Mosport Park)

These Are The Jokes, Folks!

Now let's meet Denny O'Jimmy and his little wooden friend Nubby....

Denny, I don't know about that doctor you sent me to today.

You mean Dr. Bill?

No, I haven't paid it yet. I only went this morning!

No, no. Dr. Bill.

No, he had a nose like everyone else. He may be a quack, but he didn't have a bill!

That's his name, Nubby. Dr. Bill Bill. Why didn't you like him?

Well, I don't think he's too bright. A man came into the office while I was there, and yelled, "Doc, Doc, I've been shot!" Dr. Bill looked at him and said, "Are you shot bad?" And the man said, "Ever know anybody who was shot good?!"

I don't care about other people, Nubby. What did the doctor say to you?

I said, "Doc, I feel funny. What should I do?" He said, "Go on television!"

Hmmm ....

I said, "Doc, I have a terrible pain every time I breathe." He said, "Don't worry — I'll give you something to stop it!"

Hmmmm ....

I said, "Doc, I have a cold or something in my head." He said, "Bet it's a cold!"

I think he was trying to tell you something, Nubby. Now, I've got to tell you that it's time to go.

These are the jokes, folks! Till next time, don't take any wooden punch-lines!

So you've been wishing to know what your favorite stars are wishing for in the year ahead? Well, BANANAS is about to grant your wish! Let's see what the stars hope for in 1978, as we drop into the....

CELEBRITY WISHING WELL!

By Pat Arthur & Hedda Schoephoerster

KISS
"We wish there were some way to figure out whose false eyelashes belong to whom!"

STARSKY
"I wish they'd let me make a hit record. All I ever get to do is drive fast!"

DONNY OSMOND
"I wish someone would make a toothbrush that lasts!"

MARIE OSMOND
"I wish Jimmy would stop bugging Donny and me for a job!"

KING KONG
"I wish I had a girl just like the girl that married dear old Dad!"

ELTON JOHN
"I wish I could find something in a rhinestone contact lens!"

JIMINY CRICKET
"I wish upon a star. It makes no difference who you are."

RON HOWARD
"I wish I could disguise myself so I wouldn't look like Howdy Doody!"

HOWDY DOODY
"I wish I could move my mouth as well as Ron Howard!"

LAVERNE & SHIRLEY
"We wish Lenny and Squiggy were Starsky and Hutch!"

MORRIS THE CAT
"I wish they'd quit putting words in my mouth!"

CAPTAIN (of CAPTAIN & TENNILLE)
"I wish .... uh ....."

WARREN LINN

Illustration by Warren Linn

Puzzles and Mystery by Kathryn Lance

Fun & Games

SPACED OUT WORDFINDER

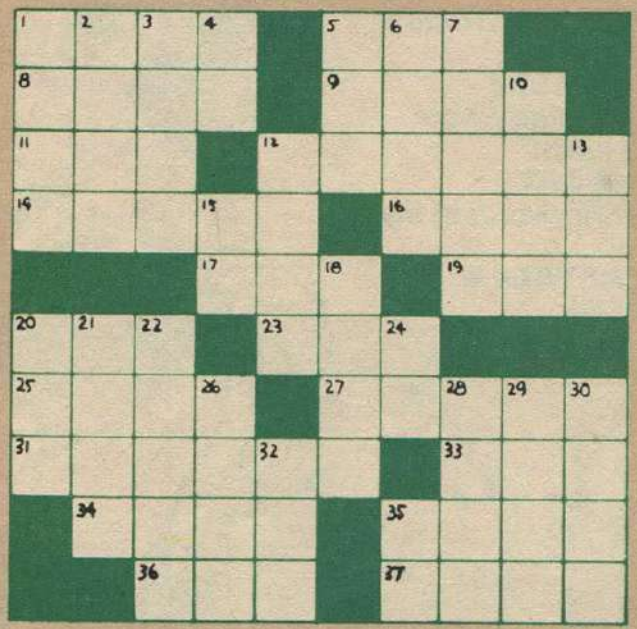
Hidden in the letters below are 20 words which have to do with outer space. The words appear across, up and down, diagonally, and occasionally in the 4th dimension! Circle each word when you find it with your phaser pencil. Remember that each letter may be used more than once. The clues should help as long as you stay out of hyperspace! When you have finished, you will have 5 leftover letters. Rearranged, they spell the name of your favorite planet.

E N T E R P R I S E
L A S E R C O M E T
A S T R A L O S R I
H T E K C O R T I L
E R U E N E R A N L
R O R O V E R R G E
I N A I T R A M R T
P A N D R O M E D A
M U U C A V E N U S
E T S H U T T L E A

1. Ship for a trek (10 letters).
2. Planet circler (9 letters).
3. Strain or star (9 letters).
4. Space traveler (9 letters).
5. Everything everywhere (8 letters).
6. 7th planet (6 letters).
7. Emptiness! (6 letters).
8. Cloudy planet (5 letters).
9. Resident of 4th planet (7 letters).
10. Spaceship propeller (6 letters).
11. Reusable U.S. space probe (7 letters).
12. Halley's, for one (5 letters).
13. Luna (4 letters).
14. Sunny, or kind of energy (5 letters).
15. Galactic govt. in Star Wars (6 letters).
16. Lunar jeep or dog (5 letters).
17. Super lightbeam (5 letters).
18. 2001 driver (3 letters).
19. Twinkler (4 letters).
20. 6th planet circler (4 letters).

Pun Puzzler

BE CAREFUL—ANSWERS ARE TRICKY!



Heroes & Superheros

ACROSS

1. Superhero costume.
5. Three-fix?
8. Poor Al talks aloud (*answer hidden in clue*).
9. Superman's alias.
11. Ache & complain.
12. First name for a female superhero?
14. 12A's golden rope.
16. Knotted wave motion?
17. What's up, _____?
19. After ques.
20. Cheer for Spanish superhero.
23. Superhero follower uses it to keep cool?
25. There are no other cities in Nevada (*answer hidden*).
27. X-ray vision, for one.
31. Robin's buddy.
33. Nickname for Aristotle.
34. Skin a banana skin.
35. It's not a plane! It's not superman!
36. Dr.'s assts.
37. Or _____.

DOWN

1. Black burner.
2. Hear Ian's opera solo (*answer hidden in clue*).
3. Batman & Robin.
4. Paso or Cajon.
5. Feat for ring hero.
6. Pay it or sleep in street.
7. Write in diary of this country (*answer hidden*).
10. Superboy, for example?
12. Speech for a superdog.
13. Sts.
15. Pierre's here.
18. Marvel's title for short.
20. Round thing or ball (*answer hidden*).
21. Superman's way of getting around tall buildings.
22. Come in!
24. Uh-uh.
26. Do men know this sign? (*answer hidden*).
28. Scream & shout!
29. Booboos or goofs.
30. Get it from a superhorse.
32. Belongs to Mr. Pacino.
35. Exist, insect!

ANSWERS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

STRANGE WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION

THE SILENT COLONY

Robert Silverberg

Illustration by Frank Bozzo

Skrid, Emerak, and Ullowa drifted through the dark night of space, searching the worlds that passed below them for some sign of their own kind. The urge to wander had come over them, as it does inevitably to all inhabitants of the Ninth World. They had been drifting through space for eons; but time is no barrier to immortals, and they were patient searchers.

"I think I feel something," said Emerak; "the Third World is giving off signs of life."

They had visited the thriving cities of the Eighth World, and the struggling colonies of the Seventh, and the experienced Skrid had led them to the little-known settlements on the moons of the giant Fifth World. But now they were far from home.

"You're mistaken, youngster," said Skrid. "There can't be any life on a planet so close to the sun as the Third World—think of how warm it is!"

Emerak turned bright white with rage. "Can't you feel the life down there? It's not much, but it's there. Maybe you're too old, Skrid."

Skrid ignored the insult. "I think we should turn back; we're putting ourselves in danger by going so close to the sun. We've seen enough."

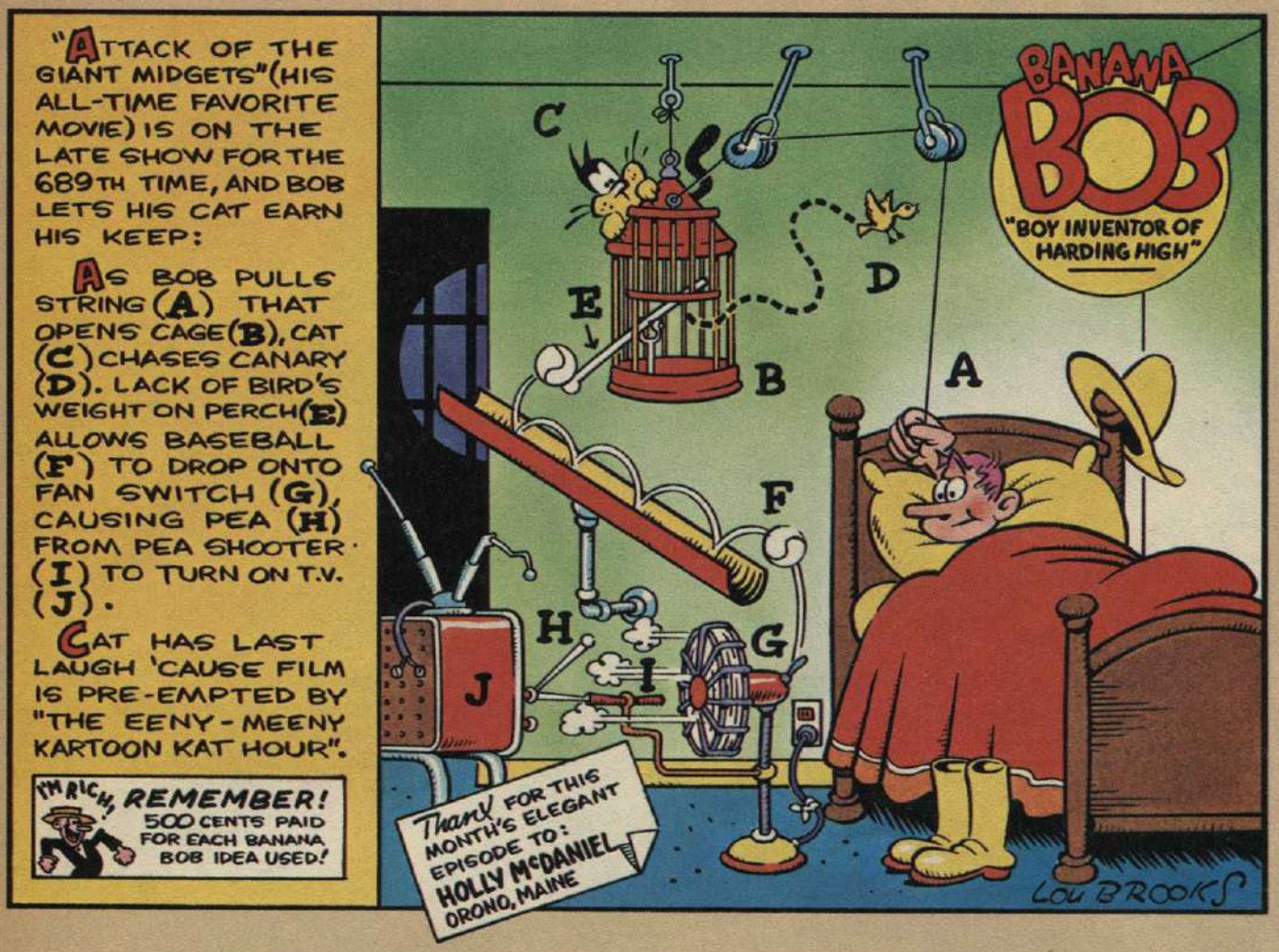
"No, Skrid, I detect life below." Emerak blazed angrily. "And just because you're leader of this triad doesn't mean that you know everything. It's just that your form is more complex than ours, and it'll only be a matter of time until—"

"Quiet, Emerak." It was the calm voice of Ullowa. "Skrid, I think the hothead's right. I'm picking up weak impressions from the Third World myself; there may be some primitive life-forms evolving there. We'll never forgive ourselves if we turn back now."

"But the sun, Ullowa, the sun! If we go too close—" Skrid was silent, and the three drifted on through the void. After a while he said, "All right, let's investigate."

The three accordingly changed their direction and began to head for the Third World. They spiraled slowly down through space until the planet hung before them, a mottled bowl spinning endlessly.

Invisibly they slipped down and into its atmosphere, gently drifting toward the planet below. They strained to pick up signs of life, and as they approached the life-impulses grew stronger. Emerak cried out vindictively that Skrid



Shirley Holmes was riding in the Goodman Brothers' customized van as they drove to their next appearance. Suddenly the driver pulled the van over to the side of the road. "Look, up there," he said. "Isn't that Marv's car?"

Shirley and the band piled out of the van and ran toward the green Cadillac which sat on the shoulder of the road. They found Marv, the groups's manager, sitting in the driver's seat, rubbing his head. Beside him on the seat lay an empty briefcase.

While the driver went to phone police, Marv explained what had happened. "I was driving along, listening to tapes of the last concert," he said. "Suddenly a guy on a motorcycle waved me over. He looked like a highway patrolman — ranger hat, dark goggles, a badge. Well, I'd been driving a little fast, so I didn't think anything of it. I was reaching for my license when he pulled a gun and demanded the receipts from our last gig. Then he slugged me and rode off with all the money — over $20,000."

"Forget about the money," said Eddie, the group's leader. "Are you okay?"

"Yeah, I'm fine," said Marv. "I just feel so stupid, being fooled like that. But I guess he really had it planned. He even knew the money was in the briefcase."

"Can you describe the imposter?" asked Shirley Holmes.

"You bet I can," said Marv. "He was tall — maybe six feet. He had dark reddish hair and light blue eyes. And — oh, yeah, he had a crescent-shaped scar on his right cheek."

"Good work, man," said Eddie. "With a description like that, the cops shouldn't have any trouble finding him."

"They'll have a lot of trouble finding someone who doesn't exist," said Shirley Holmes. "Come on, Marv. You'd better think up a better story before the police get here. They'll want to know what <u>really</u> happened to the money!"

Why doesn't Shirley believe Marv?

should listen to him more often. They knew now, without doubt, that their kind of life inhabited the planet.

"Hear that, Skrid? Listen to it, old one."

"All right, Emerak," the elder being said, "you've proved your point. I never claimed to be infallible."

"These are pretty strange thought-impressions coming up, Skrid. Listen to them, they have no minds down there," said Ullowa. "They don't think."

"Fine," exulted Skrid. "We can teach them the ways of civilization and raise them to our level. It shouldn't be hard, when time is ours."

"Yes," Ullowa agreed, "they're so mindless that they'll be putty in our hands. Skrid's Colony, we'll call the planet. I can just see the way the Council will go for this. A new colony, discovered by the noted adventurer Skrid and two fearless companions—"

"Skrid's Colony, I like the sound of that," said Skrid. "Look, there's a drifting colony of them now, falling to earth. Let's join them and make contact; here's our chance to begin."

They entered the colony and drifted slowly to the ground among them. Skrid selected a place where a heap of them lay massed together, and made a skilled landing, touching all six of his delicately constructed limbs to the ground and sinking almost thankfully into a position of repose. Ullowa and Emerak followed and landed nearby.

"I can't detect any minds among them," complained Emerak, frantically searching through the beings near him. "They look just like us—that is, as close a resemblance as is possible for one of us to have to another. But they don't think."

Skrid sent a prying beam of thought into the heap on which he was lying. He entered first one, then another, of the inhabitants.

"Very strange," he reported. "I think they've just been born; many of them have vague memories of the liquid state, and some can recall as far back as the vapor state. I think we've stumbled over something important, thanks to Emerak."

"This is wonderful!" Ullowa said. "Here's our opportunity to study newborn entities firsthand."

"It's a relief to find some people younger than yourself," Emerak said sardonically. "I'm so used to being the baby of the group that it feels peculiar to have all these infants around."

"It's quite glorious," Ullowa said, as he propelled himself over the ground to where Skrid was examining one of the beings. "It hasn't been for a million ten-years that a newborn has appeared on our world, and here we are with billions of them all around."

"Two million ten-years, Ullowa," Skrid corrected. "Emerak here is of the last generation. And no need for any more, either, not while the mature entities live forever, barring accidents. But this is a big chance for us—we can make a careful study of these newborn ones, and perhaps set up a rudimentary culture here, and report to the Council once these babies have learned to govern themselves. We can start completely from scratch on the Third Planet. This discovery will rank with Kodranik's vapor theory!"

"I'm glad you allowed me to come," said Emerak. "It isn't often that a youngster like me gets a chance to—" Emerak's voice tailed off in a cry of amazement and pain.

"Emerak?" questioned Skrid. There was no reply.

"Where did the youngster go? What happened?" Ullowa said.

"Some fool stunt, I suppose. That little speech of his was too good to be true, Ullowa."

"No, I can't seem to locate him anywhere. Can you? Uh, Skrid! Help me! I'm—I'm—Skrid, it's killing me!"

The sense of pain that burst from Ullowa was very real, and it left Skrid trembling. "Ullowa! Ullowa!"

Skrid felt fear for the first time in more eons than he could remember, and the unfamiliar fright-sensation disturbed his sensitively balanced mind. "Emerak! Ullowa! Why don't you answer?"

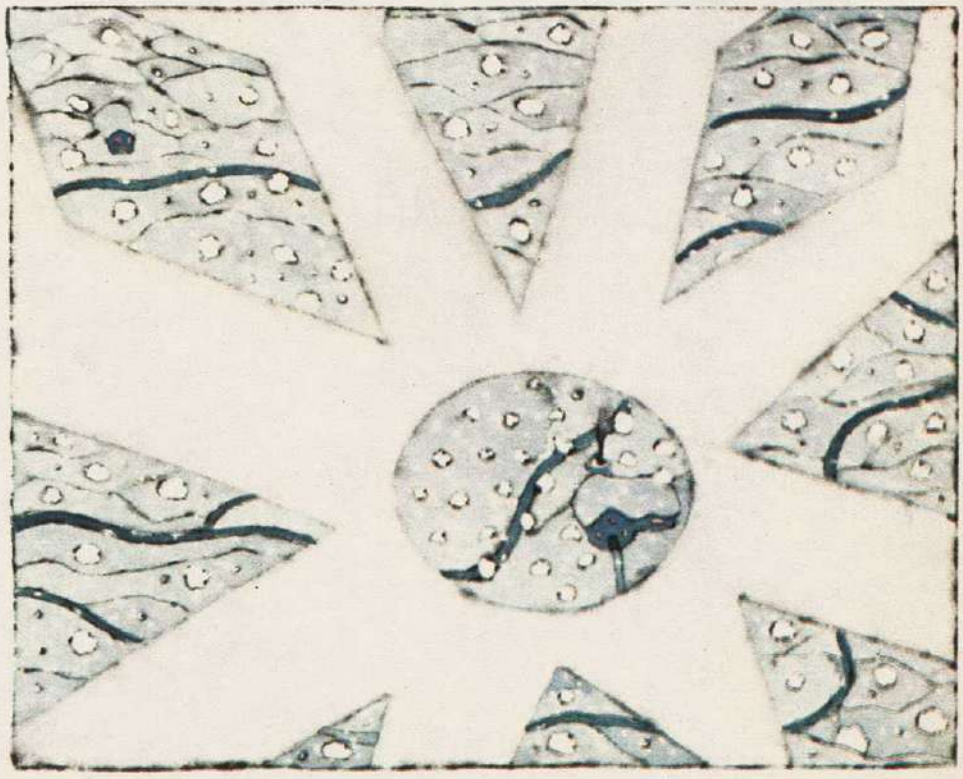
Is this the end, Skrid thought, the end of everything? Are we going to perish here after so many years of life? To die alone and unattended, on a dismal planet billions of miles from home? Death was a concept too alien for him to accept.

He called again, his impulses stronger this time. "Emerak! Ullowa! Where are you?"

In panic, he shot beams of thought all around, but the only radiations he picked up were the mindless ones of the newly born.

"Ullowa!"

There was no answer, and Skrid began to feel his fragile body disintegrating. The limbs he had been so proud of—so complex and finely traced—began to blur and twist. He sent out one more frantic cry, feeling the weight of his great age, and sensing the dying thoughts of the newly born around him. Then he melted and trickled away over the heap, while the newborn snowflakes of the Third World watched uncomprehending, even as their own doom was upon them. The sun was beginning to climb over the horizon, and its deadly warmth beat down.



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THE CHECK-OUT COUNTER

Where You Can Check Out the Latest Fads and Finds!

Edited by Carol Clark

BEAUTY ON A SHOE STRING

Don't come unstrung because your hair doesn't look its best this holiday season. Braid it — and then weave brightly colored shoe strings through or around the braids. For a different look, you won't be upbraided if you attach a small ornament such as a bell, or a sprig of holly to the end of your braid.

NEW WAYS TO SOCK-CESS!

Socks are bigger, bolder, and brighter than ever this winter. Wear knee socks in plaids and stripes with long skirts. Roll up your jeans to show off wild, colorful sock patterns. For a different look, many teens are wearing two pairs at a time! Try a patterned knee sock worn under a shorter sock rolled down to your ankle. At about $1.25, most sock stock won't shock your pocketbook.

Do you have a suggestion that could be used on this page? Send it to: THE CHECKOUT COUNTER, Bananas Magazine, 50 W. 44th Street, New York, NY 10036.

TRY A CLEAN SWEEP!

Sweep dirt away from your face with this brush made of soft badger hair. Yes, you're right — it's a man's shaving brush. But don't get in a lather over that! Used morning and night, it will clean away dirt and makeup, and sweep away those dry, dead cells which can cause your skin to flake. Apply a mild soap or cleanser to your face. Work up a lather with the brush. Then rinse. A keen clean idea for about three dollars, at better department and drug stores.

LUMBER NUMBER

Looking for a jacket that's warm but won't weigh you down? Try this latest Army-Navy store find — a lumber jacket. Made of soft wool, these jackets come in a variety of plaids and solid colors. They're very warm — especially if you wear them as part of a layered look, worn over a turtleneck sweater, shirt, and with a scarf around the collar of the jacket. A practical buy at about $15.

Illustration by Erich Barnes

HEAD LINES

By Dr. Herbert F. Waldhorn

A Psychoanalyst Discusses Your Feelings and Emotional Problems

A CASE HISTORY: JIMMY, A TROUBLED TEEN

What exactly does a psychiatrist do? What can you expect if you should ever visit a psychiatrist's office? Perhaps I can explain some of the ways a psychiatrist works with a patient by telling you the true story of a 14-year-old named Jimmy.

Jimmy held the record for getting into trouble with his parents and teachers. He always got caught breaking the rules, even when others got away with it. Because he missed a lot of homework and other school assignments, he was nearly failing most of his subjects, and his performance on tests was surprisingly bad for someone of his intelligence. At home he was constantly being scolded about neglected chores and for disobeying his parents' orders, especially about not driving the car, since he had no license. His sister complained about his being mean and even brutal to her, and his parents dealt out more and more restrictive punishments. Friends got angry with him because of his unreliable ways, and he often withdrew and became unhappy, moody, and isolated. He liked cars and mechanical things, but mostly he stayed by himself feeling hurt and lonely.

FRIGHTENED, CONFUSED

Jimmy didn't seem to know why he got into so much trouble. He felt that people—including his parents—were picking on him unfairly. Because of continuing difficulties at school, the guidance counselors and his parents finally agreed to have him see the psychiatrist at a nearby community mental health center. At his first appointment with the psychiatrist, Jimmy was frightened and confused. He couldn't see what the psychiatrist could do to get all the people who were unfriendly and angry at him to change their attitudes toward him. Since he couldn't even explain to himself how he felt and why he did the things he did, how was he going to explain it to a stranger? He felt he had gotten roped into going to see another person who would yell at him and give him a hard time.

The doctor turned out to be quite different than he expected. First of all, the doctor was interested in all of Jimmy's experiences and troubles, and listened to what he had to say with much more attention and patience than had any other adult.

Still, Jimmy didn't feel he could trust him, and he got annoyed when the doctor didn't tell him what he ought to do, or give him the advice or criticism he expected. Then he restlessly began to touch various things on the doctor's desk and on a bookshelf next to the chair he was sitting on.

When he dropped a deck of cards on the floor, Jimmy expected the doctor to get angry. Instead, the doctor suggested they play a game or two, since Jimmy didn't seem to feel like talking about himself at the moment. While they played cards on the doctor's desk, they did get to talk to each other quite a bit, and Jimmy found himself relaxing and even feeling a bit less unhappy than when he started the session.

TRYING TO GET CAUGHT

This kind of experience was repeated during several visits to the psychiatrist's office. Each time Jimmy did something he thought would be disapproved of by the doctor or make him angry, it was turned into a game or something to discuss and understand. From these beginnings he began to see how often he did things in order to get caught and to be punished—even though he had never been aware that this was his purpose.

When Jimmy and the psychiatrist talked about this some more, it led to his recognizing how guilty he felt about some of his activities with his sister, and how badly he felt inside when he got angry and had hateful thoughts toward his father and mother. The doctor helped him to see how some of that anger was caused by the natural conflict between his desire to be grown up —to drive the family car, for example —and his parents' holding onto the authority and importance they had when he was small.

Jimmy became interested in how his emotions worked, and the more he talked about his feelings and the things that troubled him at home, the easier he found it to work better at school. He didn't feel so down on himself anymore, and he could approach his friends instead of staying away from them as he had before.

As his attitude toward himself became less negative, he stopped assuming that his parents and teachers would automatically deal with him in an antagonistic and critical fashion. He began to realize that people would like him and respect him if he did something to deserve it, and that they would be fair to him if he was decent to them. These changes in his attitudes and feelings continued to develop, and when he was on his way to handling things better and feeling happier, his treatment was ended.

NEW UNDERSTANDING

How did the psychiatrist help bring about these changes? By listening to what Jimmy had to say in an objective and uncritical manner, remembering the parts that were of importance, and playing them back when Jimmy was ready to understand them more fully than before. The psychiatrist could also point out things he had spotted in the course of their playing games together, or just by observing Jimmy when they were together in his office. In this way, Jimmy came to understand many things about himself that he could not see when they were hidden by his strong feelings, false impressions, guilty feelings, and fears.

Every psychiatrist respects the privacy of his patient, and treats what the patient tells him or her with respect for the patient's feelings and point of view. The psychiatrist is the ally of the patient—and not the agent of the parents or the school authorities. Since patients find that they are dealing with someone who is honest, reliable, and sincerely interested in them and their welfare, patients manage to get many feelings and concerns out in the open, and to get many questions asked and answered for the first time. Eventually, patients are able to take steps to solve or improve their own situations.

Dr. Waldhorn is a well-known psychoanalyst. If you would like to comment on this case history—or if you have a question about your emotions and feelings you would like Dr. Waldhorn to discuss—write to: HEAD LINES, Bananas Magazine, 50 W. 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. Sorry, no answers by mail.

HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU KID

By Carol Clark

Our Expert Answers Questions about Your Clothes and the Way You Look!

DEAR CAROL:

I am 14, and I started wearing makeup when I was in the sixth grade. Now I'm in eighth grade and I want to stop wearing makeup. But I'm afraid that if I do, I won't look like me. What should I do?

A. DaSilva, San Francisco, CA

DEAR A. DaSILVA:

The solution to your problem might be to lighten up your makeup, to change your makeup so that there isn't a radical change in your appearance. Makeup, after all, should never be heavy or artificial; it should appear "natural."

Begin with super clean skin. Apply a powder blusher lightly to your cheeks. Using the tip of your ear as a guide, bring the blusher down across your cheeks, stopping two finger-widths from your nose. Instead of wearing lipstick, try a lip gloss. Mascara can be lightly applied to eyelashes to bring attention to your eyes. The key word here is lightly. Remember, makeup should not be worn as a mask to cover your face, but as an accessory to enhance it.

DEAR CAROL:

We're both 5' 1" and have a real problem finding clothes that are in style that also fit us. Do you have any suggestions?

Robin and Lori, Goldenberg, NY

DEAR ROBIN AND LORI:

Your problem is shared by many. Here are a few tips that might help you find clothes you like that fit:

1) Shop for clothes at the beginning of the season. There is a larger selection of small sizes then.

2) Look for clothes that have simple lines. That will make it easier if you have to have the clothes shortened or have other alternations made.

3) Stay away from big, bulky styles. They will overpower you.

4) For jeans, shirts, sweaters, and even blazers, check out the Boy's Department of your local department store. Not only is the fit of these garments often good — they are usually less expensive than the same items found in the Teen Girls' Department.

5) Don't be afraid to buy such accessories as belts and pocketbooks in the Children's Department. Many of the styles there are perfect copies of adult accessories — only smaller.

DEAR CAROL:

I'm a guy with naturally curly, hard-to-manage hair. I've tried everything to straighten it, but no success. Any ideas?

Tom H., Baltimore, MD

DEAR TOM:

Why fight the curliness? With curly hair so in style these days, lots of people envy you! Get a good hair style and cut that will complement you and your curly hair.

How can both boys and girls find a good hair cutter? You've got to shop around. When you see someone who has a haircut you'd like for yourself, find out who did it.

Before that person cuts your hair, explain what you'd like to have done. Watch while your hair is being cut so that when you return for a cut or trim, you can remind the hair cutter what he or she did before. Be sure to ask what you should do and what products you should use between visits to keep your hair looking good.

DEAR CAROL:

I have a problem with my fingernails. They keep breaking off. Every time I want to let them grow, they break. Is there anything I can do about this?

C.P., Xenia, OH

DEAR C.P.:

Winter's cold dry air is especially hard on nails. To help keep your nails strong, don't cut them. Cutting them encourages splitting and breaking. Instead, use an emery board to file your nails to the length you desire.

Never file your nails into points. This weakens them. Keep your nails polished to protect them.

When a nail does become split or broken, there are several products on the market that will temporarily mend it. You can find them at your local drug or department stores.

COMIX

JOE "LUCKY IN DAY" ©J. Holmstrom
FIND A PENNY, PICK IT UP...
AND ALL THE DAY YOU'LL HAVE GOOD LUCK!!
POST NO BILLS
THE LAST MANGO
CHICO 7-11
BIMBO
THE SINGING APE
AIR COLLECTORS SHOW
KILROY
SEE AIR FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD
SPLAT
HAR HAR!
SORRY! HAHAH!
GRR!
G#3?%
ARGH!
PTOOEY!
WHOOPS
WHAP!
SPEEDY DELIVERY INC.
WHAM!
WHAT TH'!
CORN FAKES
YIPES!
MAYBE NOW I'LL BE SAFE!
DIM WIT
SENATE
WOD NICK FOR PREZ
POST NO BILLS
SMOKE REAL BIG CIGARS
ACTUAL SIZE
THE MORONS
AGORA
WHOMP
SORRY!
S'ALRIGHT
AT LEAST I STILL GOT MY PENNY!
YIPES!
ALRIGHT, KID, GIMME ALL YER MONEY!
ALL I GOT IS A PENNY!
IGNORE THIS
OH! A CHEAPSKATE, HUH?
POW!
OW!
CRUNCH
WOW! THIS IS GOOD LUCK! A FOUR LEAF CLOVER!
DO NOT PICK THE FLOWERS

BURD SEED
SPECIAL DELIVERY BY DIANE DAWSON
BARKOV, WILL YOU TAKE THIS NOTE TO PRISILLA PUDDINHED.
SURE! WHOT DOES IT SAY?
IT SAYS THAT I LOVE HER MADLY AND REQUEST A DATE TONIGHT. R.S.V.P. OF COURSE.
OH... OF COURSE MAN!
A LITTLE LATER...
HERE COMES BARKOV WITH HER REPLY!
O.K. BARKOV! TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT MY TRUE LOVE SAID.
HER REPLY IS... AN' I QUOTES
CORNELIUS.... THE PICTURE OF NIAGARA FALLS WAS VERY PRETTY BUT...
HOW DARE YOU SEND A POSTCARD TO ASK ME OUT!
BAM
WHOOSH
SINSERIOUSLY, PRISILLA PUDDINHED.

ZOEY
Jill Bryant 1977
YOU'RE SO SELFISH! "ME, ME, ME!" WHAT ABOUT MY NEEDS!?
YOU?! YOU'RE JEALOUS & DEMANDING! I CAN'T TAKE IT!
WELL, THAT'S FINE WITH ME! SO LONG, SUCKER!
AND GOOD RIDDANCE
THAT NURD! WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS, WALKING OUT ON ME?!
GROAN!
A-A-AI..! SHE'S A FIEND!
OH! WHAT HAVE I DONE? I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HIM, THE TURKEY...
...THAT CUTE WAY SHE BUNGLES EVERYTHING... I MISS HER...
WHAT'S SHAKIN'? YEA, ME TOO, WANNA
OH, LOT'S. I'VE BEEN VERY BUSY.
HELP ME CLEAN MY DAD'S GARAGE?
I GUESS SO.
YOUNG LOVE, CHARMING, UGH.

WIN WINGS ALBUMS!!!!

That's right — 10 lucky BANANAS readers are going to win a copy of Wings Over America, courtesy of Capitol Records! Here's all you have to do to win this fabulous three-record set with a big beautiful poster inside:

Fill out this short questionnaire. Be very honest — you won't hurt our feelings. Put your name and full address at the bottom. Mail the questionnaire before March 1, 1978, to:

BANANAS, 50 W. 44th Street, New York, NY 10036.

In March, we will reach into our mailbag and pull out 10 questionnaires at random. All 10 BANANAS readers will win a Wings album! Offer void in states where prohibited.

1) I am a _____ boy, _____ girl.

2) Age _____, Grade _____.

3) I get BANANAS through: _____ subscription, _____ TAB Book Club, _____ CAMPUS Book Club.

4) My three favorite TV shows are:

_____

_____

_____

5) Who is your favorite music performer or group?

_____

6) Who is your favorite comedian or funnyperson?

_____

7) What other magazines do you get in school?

_____

_____

8) Now, please rate these BANANAS features from this issue. Use this rating system:

4 — Excellent **2 — Fair**
3 — Good **1 — Poor or Didn't Read**

a) Letters Page _____
b) Movie-TV Lies _____
c) BANANAS Typing Lesson _____
d) You Asked For It! _____
e) Strange Inventions _____
f) Weird, Unsolved Mystery _____
g) Great Moments _____
h) Granny Meatloaf _____
i) Winter Drinks _____
j) Flashback: McCartney _____
k) WINGS Mini-Poster _____
l) Kiss Comic Book _____
m) Three's Company! _____
n) Frisbee Collector _____
o) 6-Wheeled Racer _____
p) Denny O'Jimmy _____
q) Celebrity Wishes _____
r) Fun 'n' Games Puzzles _____
s) Shirley Holmes _____
t) Banana Bob Comic _____
u) Sci-Fi Story _____
v) Check-Out Counter _____
w) Head Lines _____
x) Here's Looking at You _____
y) Joe Comic _____
z) Zoey Comic _____
aa) Burdseed Comic _____
bb) It Never Fails! _____
cc) BANANAS Poster-Calendar _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

BANANAS is brought to you each month by your local BANANAS staff:
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PRODUCTION: Judith Gorman.

What's Happening....

By Kay Pasa

Hi, everyone. BANANAS has Movie-TV Lies up front this month, and now let's get to the *truth* back here in the back. Here are the latest whispers from New York, Hollywood, and Nashville.... **Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs** isn't whispering these days—he's singing! That's right, *Kotter's* Boom-Boom Washington is letting his voice boom out on a soul lp that marks a new direction in the talented actor's career. Will he sing on *Welcome Back, Kotter?* No, he told me. "That character is a street guy who doesn't care about anything. You can't fit a straight singer into that role...."

While we're on the subject of singing, what's happening with the **Eagles**? Some reports I've received say the boys aren't exactly making beautiful music together anymore. In fact, the stories about a fistfight between **Randy Meisner** and **Glenn Frey** are true! Meisner swung first at Frey. Then Frey turned around and decked him. And I thought this was one of those laid-back California groups! Tsk. Tsk....

Our *Question of the Month* comes from Darla Fein of Los Angeles, CA. Darla asks: "Is it true that **Linda Ronstadt** has been dating California's Governor **Jerry Brown,** or is that just a publicity stunt?" The answer, Darla, is *yes*—it's absolutely true! If Governor Brown ever makes it to the White House, can you imagine Linda Ronstadt as First Lady!? But let's not get ahead of ourselves here.... What is **Alice Cooper** doing in Scottsdale, Arizona? Well, you know, he grew up there. Now, he's opening a jewelry store devoted to American Indian craftsmen. Alice's mom and dad will run the store. Isn't he a jewel?

Funny Flicks: Some funny people are busy making what they hope are funny movies. Watch for **Chevy Chase** (you remember him from *NBC Saturday Night*, don't you?) in his movie debut with none other than **Goldie Hawn!** Another *Saturday Night* star, **John Belushi,** has gone Hollywood in a film called *Goin' South*. It's a comedy-western. John's co-star? **Jack Nicholson.** He's not as pretty as Goldie Hawn, but he's not bad!....Finally, **Peter Sellers** is back at work as Inspector Clouseau. That's right, another *Pink Panther* film is on its way. Watch for *Curse of the Pink Panther*—you'll be tickled pink!

Oh my, that's a terrible joke to end with! But this isn't the end—it's just so long till next month!

KAY

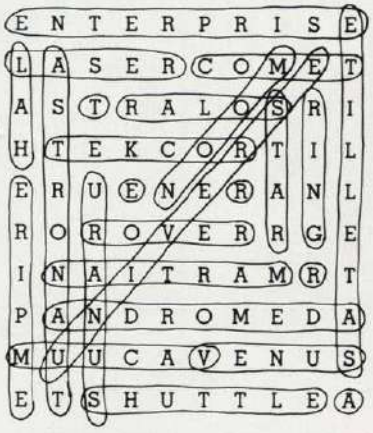
BANANAS TOP 10 ALBUMS WINNER!!!!

Thousands of questionnaires poured in from BANANAS #13 last September. We reached into our mailbag and selected our winner. She's ANGIE SEEDERS, 13, of Chillicothe, Ohio!! Congratulations, Angie! You win the Ten Greatest Albums of All Time, as selected by BANANAS readers—albums worth more than $100!

Send in your questionnaires today—maybe you'll be a winner of the fabulous triple WINGS album!

ANSWERS TO FUN 'N' GAMES PUZZLES (Pages 30-31):

ANSWER TO WORDFINDER:



LEFT-OVER WORD: Terra

ANSWER TO SHIRLEY HOLMES MYSTERY: If the robber was wearing "dark goggles," how could Marv describe the color of his eyes?

CREDITS: Cover—ABC-TV; page 1—ABC-TV, 20th Century-Fox; 2—ABC-TV, United Artists; 3—Casablanca Records; 4—RCA, ABC-TV, 20th Century-Fox; 5—ABC-TV; 9—Dan Nelken; 18-19—As They Were, Photo Trends/John Kelly, Linda McCartney, Photoreporters; 24-25—ABC-TV; 35-36—Dan Nelken; Inside Back Cover—UPI, James Shea.

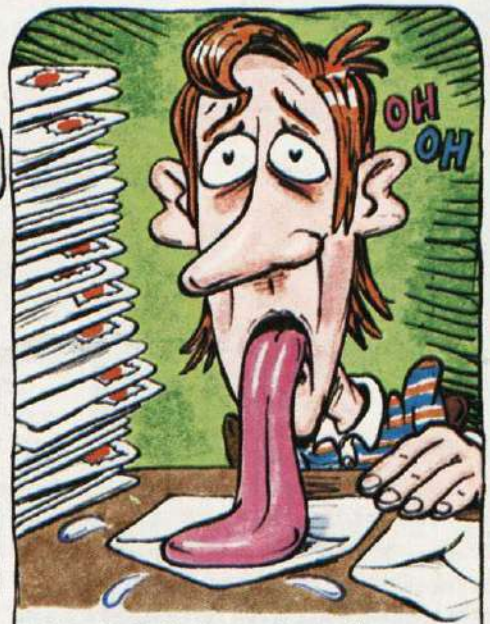
IT NEVER FAILS!

Got a gripe? Got something terrible that *always* happens to you? Quick — write it down and send it to: IT NEVER FAILS!, BANANAS, 50 W. 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. We'll publish the best ones we receive!

You spend hours making someone a gift for Christmas and then he can't figure out what it is!

Dennis Dierking, Jeffersonville, IN

You shovel snow for three hours, and then it starts to snow!



You lick all the envelopes for your Christmas cards and then realize you didn't put in the cards!

Michael Russell, Allen Park, MI

You sit down to write an "It Never Fails" for BANANAS and see that someone else has already sent in the same one!

John Porter, Camp Hill, PA

The day after a cute guy finally starts to notice you, a new girl comes into your class, and he forgets you're alive!

Elizabeth Martin, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

The one day you forget to bring your lunch, the lunchroom has only food that you hate!

Lori Bihm, Houston, TX

Illustration by Bill Basso

BANANAS 1978 WALL CALENDAR!!!

Here is the calendar that will help you go bananas all year long! It's the 1978 BANANAS BANANA CALENDAR! Tear it out carefully from the back — and remember, today is the last day of the first part of your life! (Or something like that!)

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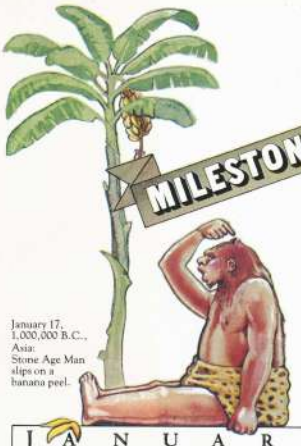
MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF THE BANANA

1978 BANANAS MAGAZINE CALENDAR



January 17, 3,000,000 B.C., Asia: Stone Age Man slips on a banana peel.

JANUARY						
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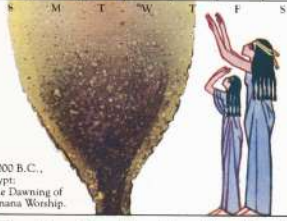

3,000 B.C., Egypt: The Dawning of Banana Worship.

FEBRUARY						
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26	27	28				

S T F S

1250 — 1307, Europe: The Great Banana Wars.

MARCH						
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S M F S

April 1, 1784, France: First banana cream pie thrown in someone's face.

APRIL						
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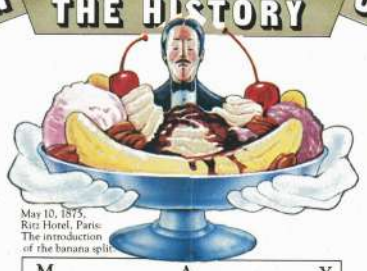

May 10, 1875, Ritz Hotel, Paris: The introduction of the banana split.

MAY						
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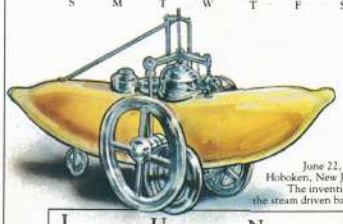

June 22, 1884, Hoboken, New Jersey: The invention of the steam driven banana.

JUNE						
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S M T W T S

July 3, 1909, Palace Theatre, New York: The first banana-in-the-ear joke.

JULY						
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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

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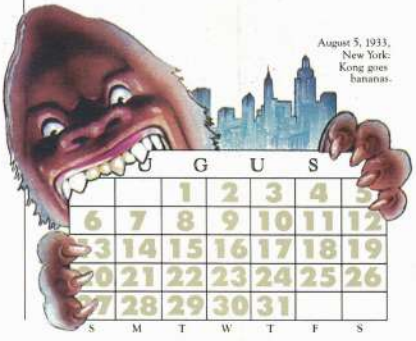

August 5, 1933, New York: Kong goes bananas.

AUGUST						
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27	28	29	30	31		

S M T W T F S

September, 1935, Battle Creek, Michigan: Corn Flake meets banana.

SEPTEMBER						
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S M T W T F S

October, 1944, Brazil: Carmen Miranda discovers the banana, becomes a star.

OCTOBER						
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S M T W T F S

November 2, 1953, Peoria, Illinois: The largest banana ever grown.

NOVEMBER						
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S M T F S

December 12, 1977, Atlantic City: The first Miss Banana.

DECEMBER						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

S M T W T F S

Marcellino

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